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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

IRISH, FRENCH, SPANISH, AND GERMAN AMERICAN PAPERS ON THE ARBITRATION TREATY.

WHILE the arbitration treaty between England and the United States hangs fire in the Senate and the press in both countries has taken the Senate more or less to task for delay, it develops that journals in this country representing various nationalities appear inclined to criticize the treaty itself from numerous points of view. The treaty as first amended for report to the Senate by the committee on foreign relations specifically excepts every question of foreign and domestic policy from arbitration unless by special agreement, and drops the name of King Oscar of Sweden as umpire in certain contingencies. So many amendments have been suggested by Senators during the discussions of the treaty, and the pressure of appropriation bills in the last days of the present session is likely to be so great, that Washington correspondents discount all chances of ratification before the new Administration comes into power.

That an arbitration treaty of general character will ultimately be concluded seems to be beyond doubt to most of the journals. But the Irish-American press, for instance, is radically opposed to what *The Irish World* calls "England's sham arbitration scheme, whose main object is to enable John Bull to obtain by trick and device what he could not otherwise procure." The same paper defends the Senators who are attacked by "the Mugwumps and Anglomaniacs" for objecting to a treaty "framed in the British Foreign Office." The editor says in part:

"Since the close of the war we have arbitrated with England about the Alabama claims and the Bering Sea seal fisheries, and in both cases we got the worst of it, as was to be expected. . . . The conduct of England, as here portrayed, is an indication of what we may expect her to do if the treaty sent to the Senate by the Administration should be ratified by that body. Arbitration of the character proposed by the Cleveland-Salisbury agreement is simply a trap designed to make it easy and safe for England to gratify her avariciousness at the expense of the United States. She has already shown how she can win by her diplomacy victories that she could never have secured by war. No wonder she is enamored with this method of attaining her ends."

The Boston *Pilot*, another organ of Irish-American sentiment, takes up "Some English Treaties" for consideration, and makes the following remarks:

"She [England] made a treaty with France promising to evacuate Egypt after pacifying the country, and all the world, especially France, knows how that treaty has been kept. She made a treaty with the United States promising not to infringe on the territory of Central America, and broke it inside of two years by seizing the Bay Islands belonging to Honduras. She made a treaty with Ireland, the Treaty of Limerick, and broke it as soon as Parliament could assemble to dishonor the king's sacred promise. If the United States Senate be tricked or bullied into ratifying the pending treaty of arbitration, we shall see that treaty broken the first time that it interferes with England's designs on this continent.

"Ireland is not the only nation that has had cause to repent trusting to English faith, but she is the latest victim of utterly flagrant dishonor in the matter of the overtaxation commission. Other and stronger nations can defend their rights, and no doubt this country will do so when we have an American to represent it at the court of St. James and a navy to back up resistance to any attempted fraud; but if anybody believes that the power which has bullied or cheated every other, when it could do so, will be just and gentle with America, he has much faith or little knowledge to guide him."

And again:

"The arbitration treaty means a further treaty of alliance offensive and defensive with Great Britain. It means that, in case of European complications, America is bound by every sacred tie of ingratitude to forget the debts which we owe to France and Russia, and to unite against either or both when it becomes necessary to 'boss our mother' by kissing her feet. Is it really worth while to dishonor ourselves in that fashion, for the sake of nothing at all?"

SENATORIAL JUGGLERY.
—*The Herald, New York.*

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We also make the following translations representing French, Spanish, and German American opinion:

A Family Affair.—"The treaty is certainly in danger and it would not be wise to attach to it exaggerated value. It has a certain amount of importance from a moral point of view, but it does not constitute a final solution of international problems, especially as it is intended for a period of five years only. It bristles with clauses limiting or suspending its action. In spirit, if not in the letter, it [the Senate committee's amendment] weakens the power of the arbitration tribunal, and its minute precautions endanger peace and justify a recourse to arms. Finally, the very reason which renders its adoption possible makes it difficult for other nations to follow the example, for it is a purely family affair, intended to establish a better understanding between two races closely related to each other."—*Courier des Etats-Unis* (*French*), *New York*.

First Step toward Peace Not to be Underrated.—"The Democratic Senators no doubt wish to give Mr. Cleveland a bad quarter of an hour, and the Republicans do not choose that he should obtain another triumph during the remaining weeks of his Presidency. To this must be added that Russia will certainly use her influence against the treaty. But even if the Senate rejects it altogether in the end, its moral effect remains. The very fact that such a treaty has been negotiated must have some effect upon the world. We may, therefore, be certain that it will not be long before similar negotiations will be begun. The first step toward peace has been made, and it should not be underrated."—*Novedades* (*Spanish*), *New York*.

A Treaty of Doubtful Value.—"The treaty will not be ratified under the present Administration. The Gathmann gun, or the wonderful stories told about it, have cooled down our Jingoes, who now think they can extend the Monroe doctrine without the help of Great Britain. The Republic of Central America objects to the Nicaragua Canal as an United States venture, and the Senate, as a matter of course, declares that the state with which we are to conclude a treaty of arbitration and peace is intriguing against us. Under these circumstances it seems peculiar that the propaganda for a similar treaty with France has already begun. The French, however, see through the game. They realize that this sudden longing for a peace treaty with France is inspired by the wish to keep certain European powers from interfering with the new Monroe doctrine anent Cuba. France, therefore, replies that she is willing to arbitrate if French interests are advanced thereby only. France's interests in Cuba are greater than those of England, and France has no Canada we could attack. Our Jingoes know that too. Hence they did not interfere between Brazil and France, tho these two countries have a quarrel similar to that of Venezuela and Great Britain. We do not think that the cause of peace is benefited by a treaty whose real object is to further chauvinistic ambition. The same men who advocate peace with England preach war against Spain."—*Freie Presse* (*German*), *Chicago*.

Failure to Ratify would be a Disgrace.—"To object to the King of Sweden as arbitrator does not seem wise to us. The royal family in England is related to many others, and it will be difficult to find a monarch who is free from the suspicion of partiality on the grounds of relationship. If we suggest the president of a South American republic, England will reply that the South American countries are too much under the thumb of the United States to be impartial, and, as republics, too strongly prejudiced against monarchies. It should be remembered that monarchs regard their duties as arbitrators as an honor, and choose as advisers men who have a reputation to lose. It would be a disgrace if the treaty is not ratified."—*Westliche Post* (*German*), *St. Louis*.

Treaty Does Not Gain in Popularity.—"To be perfectly honest, the treaty has not gained in popularity here. In reality the principle of peace had nothing to do with it. England and the United States both had in mind the possible advantages they might gain by such a treaty, with regard to their relation toward the rest of the world. It has been found that England's position would be strengthened considerably by such a treaty, while the United States would gain little. We have no special reason to fortify England's position, hence the treaty has lost in popularity. Fear of the Irish vote on the part of our politicians, and that idiotic way of teaching history by fostering the hatred against England, are in a large measure responsible for the unpopularity of the treaty."—*Staats-Zeitung* (*German*), *New York*.

MUNICIPAL REFORMS IN DETROIT.

DETROIT, MICH., a city of an estimated population of about 300,000, owns water-works, owns and operates an electric-light plant, fixes the price of illuminating gas at $1 and fuel gas at 80 cents per thousand feet, and has secured a three-cent street car-fare during working hours. Governor and Mayor Pingree (his present term as mayor of Detroit does not expire until next January) became a national figure in his fight for some of these reforms, and his successes in opposing corporations are considered responsible for his recent elevation to the governorship by a striking majority.

Mr. Pingree tells in *The Outlook*, February 6, an exceedingly interesting story of his fight for reforms. He says that Detroit is a city of home-owners, with a foreign population in the main English-speaking. "The anti-monopoly measures of my administration," he says, "have been supported by all classes, except what are called the best citizens. The small property-owners have supported them as zealously as the wage-earners. A great many among what are called the better classes have voted for me, but they are generally careful not to let it be known. If we had to depend upon these classes for reforms, they could never be brought about."

The chief fight, and one not yet ended, has been between the city and the street-car companies. This began during a street-car strike several years ago. Mr. Pingree says that the companies were giving poor service and working their men from ten to fourteen hours a day. He refused to call out the militia at the demand of officers of the company, and public sympathy supported his request for arbitration, which finally settled the dispute in a day and a half. "In my opinion," says he, "no company ought to get a franchise unless it stipulates its readiness to submit to arbitration its disputes with its men. Both men and companies owe it to the public to keep the peace." He continues:

"The public feeling against the company which this strike brought to a head made it possible to keep up a fight for a better street-car service. At first most of the aldermen seemed to be bound hand and foot to the street-car companies; but half of them are elected every year, and we tried to select men who would stand by the people, and got them, if possible, to pledge themselves. When once pledged, it was pretty hard for them to go back on their word, but of course some had their price. Not until the second year was the Board of Aldermen really out of the grip of the street-car company. All this time we were fighting the company in the courts in regard to its franchise. It was a long, bitter fight, the case being taken from court to court, and finally costing the city from $50,000 to $60,000. While this struggle was going on, with decisions sometimes in our favor and sometimes in theirs, they were trying to get a new franchise, but I kept vetoing their measures, and it was pretty hard to pass anything over my veto. I used to stir up the public by sending out notices, and the people would pack the Council chamber and fairly terrify the aldermen who wished to go back on their campaign promises. We even told them that we had plenty of rope there and would hang them."

With one exception, a German paper, the newspapers were on the side of the street-car companies. Mr. Pingree says they misrepresented him, and he had to resort to posting notices on chained bulletin boards, to get a hearing. The fight in the courts was almost as difficult to carry forward, he writes:

"When I got a resolution passed in the Council giving me the power to retain two lawyers outside of those already paid by the city, I picked out one prominent Democrat and one prominent Republican. These men accepted the case, but the first thing

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I knew the company began to bring pressure to bear upon them. The prominent Democrat, who has held a Cabinet position, took a smooth way to get out of the fight. He said that he was in national politics, and that this local struggle complicated his position. The prominent Republican did not drop out so quickly, but I found we were having a hard time to get the matter before the court. Finally I insisted that he must bring it to a head. A few mornings later I was surprised to have him come in to see me and state that he had been retained by the company and could no longer serve as our attorney. He said that he was poor and that they had offered him such an amount that he could not afford to let it go by. Of course I gave this to the papers, and you can imagine the feeling it stirred up.

"Then I started around to look for other attorneys, and found that every able lawyer in town had been retained except Professor Kent, who was not a jury lawyer but a good counsel. I retained him, and also a strong lawyer from up the State. We carried the case through the lower court, and it went then from court to court until it came to the Supreme Court. Then in some way they managed to transfer it to the Federal courts. It was to have been tried before a judge who owed his appointment to the largest stockholder in the street-car company. I took the position that that judge had no right to try that case. I used some pretty strong language, and think they would have had me arrested if I had not been right. As a result of these protests, the case was transferred to a circuit court in Ohio and tried before Judge Taft. He decided in our favor. Then it was appealed to the Court of Appeals in Tennessee before Judge Jackson. Our lawyers went down there, and the next day telegraphed back that the judge had his mind made up to decide against us, but he held the matter for six months before rendering his opinion. About ten days before the decision came we learned that a New York firm had bought out the street-railway company. When the decision was handed down, it was in their favor. What reason the New York capitalists had for thinking the stock of a company whose franchise had been declared void by the circuit court was a safe investment will possibly never be publicly known.

"On the filing of the opinion of the Court of Appeals the new owners began to make overtures for peace on the basis of a thirty-year franchise and five-cent fares, but in the mean time another factor had entered into the problem. On the 20th of November, 1894, Messrs. Pack & Everett, of Cleveland, made application to the Common Council for a franchise to operate street-cars on streets not, as a rule, used by the old company, and agreed to equip their system with modern appliances and sell eight tickets for a quarter, to be good from quarter before six in the morning until eight o'clock at night. When the ordinance granting this franchise was pending before the Council, the new managers of the old company exhibited the same short-sightedness as had their predecessors. They not only refused to reduce fares themselves—publicly admitting that to do so would have a bad effect upon their street-car properties in other cities—but violently opposed the granting of a franchise to the Pack-Everett syndicate. Their obstructive policy, however, went for naught, and the ordinance was adopted. The old company then announced its intention to contest in the courts the right of the new company to operate the lines, and applied for an injunction in that behalf. In this fight before the courts, however, the old company failed, and the citizens of Detroit have now access to a street-car system extending to nearly all parts of the city, with the fare during working hours practically three cents, and with universal transfers. During the last campaign there was, indeed, a practical consolidation of the new company with the old, but the combination is bound to operate the franchise of the new company upon the terms laid down in the charter. Mr. Everett, of the new company, was opposed to entering the combination. He told me when his company started that they would be satisfied if they made money in a year and a half, and afterward admitted that they had made money almost from the start. His company at one time proposed to the Council to operate all the street-railway lines in the city at the rate of two and one-half cents per passenger, and pay the interest upon the purchase-price of the street-car tracks if these tracks were condemned by the authority of the legislature and the purchase price decided by arbitrators. The fight has not ended, and may not end until the franchise of the old company expires. Fortunately, the Michigan legislature was long ago wise enough to provide against perpetual franchises. All franchises in this State are for thirty years."

In reducing the price of gas from $1.50, Mr. Pingree proved by statistics that gas could be profitably furnished at $1, and altho failing to secure from the legislature the right of the city to regulate the rates, he says that the old company accepted a new franchise to furnish gas at $1. The municipal electric-light plant recently established has reduced the cost of lighting the streets from $11,15 to $7,20 per arc lamp. The water-works have been owned by the city since 1852, and "no one dreams of such a thing as return to private ownership," according to Mr. Pingree. He is in favor of general taxation to furnish free water as well as free schools, parks, etc. He believes in strict compliance with civil-service-reform principles to secure efficient administration. And from his experience he concludes:

"The time is coming when municipal monopolies will be owned by the people. Detroit during my administration voted by a majority of four to one in favor of public ownership of street-car tracks. If the tracks were owned by the public, it would be easy to get the service performed at competitive and reasonable prices. We must not, however, wait for public ownership before putting an end to the extortion now practised by private monopolies. We must, under the present system, compel the corporations exercising public franchises to furnish their services at the reasonable rates contemplated in their charters. This can be done wherever the city government is intent upon accomplishing it, and the city government will be intent upon accomplishing it whenever the citizens wake up to the extent of the extortions now practised upon them."

IN DEFENSE OF SOUTHERN TEXT-BOOKS OF HISTORY.

SOUTHERN journals are not slow in replying to the New York *Sun* and other newspapers which allege that certain text-books in Southern schools distort American history (THE LITERARY DIGEST, February 6). The retort of the Baltimore *American* (Rep.), considered as representing sentiment in a border State, is widely quoted and serves as the text for numbers of Southern editorials:

"If our contemporary should examine into the Northern school histories as carefully as he has examined the Southern histories, he might find there the reason why the latter were written. No one unfamiliar with the subject would gather from the Northern histories that the right of secession was an open question until the war settled it. The Southern people were fighting for a principle. They now, and have for a quarter of a century, admitted that the question has been settled, and settled adversely to their contention, and they acquiesce in that settlement, but they naturally object to teaching their children that they were traitors and rebels. Secession was first threatened by New England States, but we doubt whether that fact is very plainly brought out in Northern school histories. Partizanship is no better on one side than the other. It is only the truth which will make us whole."

The Atlanta *Constitution* says, in part:

"Special umbrage is taken at the use of the word 'invasion' as applied to the course of the Northern army in penetrating this section, and also at the use of the term 'ruthless' as characterizing the depredations wrought by the Northern army. Because of these and other minor objections it is claimed by our Northern critics that the school-books recommended by the Confederate Veterans' Association are in the highest degree obnoxious and partizan.

"If these alleged defects betray a partizan spirit, it is chiefly because they are viewed through partizan eyes. For many years there were no Southern histories used in the public schools of this section for the simple reason that our people were too busily engaged in retrieving their losses to write history. During this period of recuperation Northern histories were used in our schools almost exclusively, and to say that a very great injustice was done the Southern cause by these histories is to state a fact which can not be gainsaid. Without giving the South credit for patriotic devotion to the principles of the Constitution or even for honesty

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in espousing the great cause to which she consecrated her treasure, these histories taught our children to look with disdain upon Southern heroism and statesmanship. In order to correct these evils, therefore, the South has been driven into writing history. Without reviving buried issues or proclaiming a single doctrine which the arbitrament of war has settled, our Southern historians have merely pictured in its true light the great internecine drama of 1861–65.

"While our historians may be at fault in some of the details of their work, they are not alone in their fallibility by any means; and if the spirit in which they have performed their task is colored by what their critics are pleased to call partizanship, it is because the standards by which our Southern historians are measured happen to be themselves partizan.

"Since the issues of the great sectional conflict are forever settled, shall the South in addition to all her sufferings be denied the meager privilege of teaching her children that the cause for which she struggled, altho unsuccessful, was at least patriotic and honest? Surely there can be no reluctant or negative answer to this question. . . .

"Of course it is not expected that our Northern friends should go so far as to adopt our Southern histories in the public schools of that section; but since they have undertaken to write history themselves, it is only fair that they should accord the same privilege to the South."

The New Orleans *Times-Democrat* says:

"It is inevitable in discussing a disputed question that a history should lean one way or the other. Absolute impartiality is difficult, and we are not likely to have it for many years to come, if we ever do. Under such circumstances none but a very irrational newspaper would expect the South to accept the Northern version of secession and the origin of the war and its main conduct, and to teach it in its public schools.

"Where *The Sun* is mistaken in its belief that because the Southern histories teach different lessons as to the origin of the war they discourage or weaken patriotism. The South is to-day, as it always has been, the stronghold of true, broad American patriotism as distinguished from sectionalism. It has shown this in every former war we have had, and in all of them it has contributed in men and money more than the North, and has suffered more from the depredations of the enemy, whether it was in the war of independence, in which the Southern people embarked to protect the liberties of the New England colonies, the war of 1812, when we called England to account for its injuries to the New England shipping, or the Mexican war. With these displays of patriotism and national spirit before the country the South will not allow any Northern history to be read in its schools which teaches that its people are unpatriotic simply because they differed with their Northern brethren in 1861 in the interpretation of the Federal Constitution."

On the question of text-books in general the Charleston, S. C., *News and Courier* expresses "the decided opinion" that the state board of education "should be empowered to prohibit and punish the introduction into any school of any text-book which is offensive to the people of the State because of its positively unfriendly bias, or because of its neglect or slighting treatment of the subjects of special interest to them." It adds that a bill for this purpose is pending in the legislature.

SPAIN'S DECREE OF REFORM FOR CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

REFORMS in Cuba and Porto Rico have been promulgated by the Queen Regent of Spain, to be effected by the Spanish Government "as soon as the state of war will permit." The decree (published February 5) gives enlarged local powers to Cuban municipalities and to provincial assemblies, but the principal feature is the proposed establishment of a "council of administration of the island." This body will be composed of thirty-five members, of whom twenty-one will be elected by popular vote and six by the leading municipal and provincial corporations. The remaining eight members will consist of a leading magistrate, a university professor, an archiepiscopal delegate, and five ex-senators or deputies. The governor-general will be honorary president of the council and will nominate a member as actual president. A councillor must have the qualifications of a member of the cortes and two years' residence in the island. Councillors are to be elected under the existing suffrage laws [about 50,000 vote out of 1,500,000].

Upon the crucial point of taxation the decree reads:

"The cortes will determine the amount of the expenses of the sovereignty (imperial expenses), and will determine the total of the budget. To meet that amount the council of administration will accord every year the taxes and revenues necessary to supply the expenses approved by the cortes. Only in case of the council of administration not having approved and voted by July 1 the taxes and revenues necessary to meet the budget approved by the cortes, the governor-general will decree them with the advice of the intendante.

"The council of administration will frame and approve the local budget and the resources for the expenses."

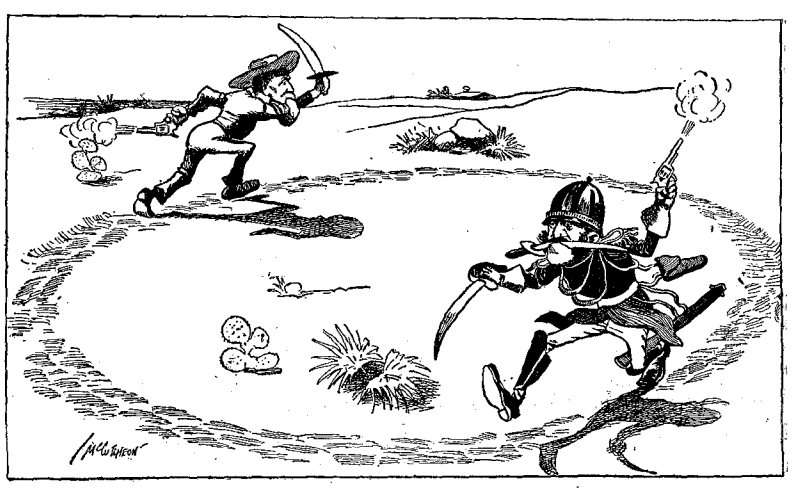
The council will have limited control over customs duties with specified protection to Spanish goods, and the Government will regulate the tariff until a special Cuban tariff is decided upon. Customs officials are to be Cubans. The governor-general's appointees to government office (with the exception of civil governors of provinces and several others) must be Cubans or Spaniards resident for two years in Cuba. Rules for the maintenance of public order and the suppression of secessionist movements are withheld for a special decree. The decree for Cuba applies to Porto Rico also.

The decree has been received with protest in the Spanish press, as "giving everything to the Cubans." It appears to be quite as unsatisfactory to the Cubans. President Cineros of the reputed Cuban Republic, and Secretary Palma, of the Cuban Junta in this country, scout the acceptance of such reforms from Spain. General Gomez, commanding the insurgent forces, expresses Cuban sentiment (interview in the New York *Sun*) as follows:

"Spain does not intend to grant reforms. She has no good-will toward Cuba or the Cuban people. She never had. It has been always her foremost desire to make as much out of the colony and get as much out of it as was possible for her own good. Be that as it may, we are asking nothing of the Spanish Government or people. Even were the proposals for reform *bona fide*, nothing could tempt us to treat with them.

"We are for liberty, not for Spanish reform. We are for Cuba, not for Spain. We are for the people of our own land who work, not for the horde of idlers and corruptionists that Spain intends for us so long as she is able to back them by bayonets.

"I am disgusted with this talk of reform. Does Spain think we have forgotten the lessons of the past? Does she think we will be ready to treat with her for a portion when the whole is



THE SAME EXCITING SITUATION IN CUBA—WEYLER CHASES GOMEZ AND GOMEZ PURSUES WEYLER.—*The Record, Chicago.*

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within our reach, and when we can win it with honor?" and then Gomez, asking of me paper and pencil, wrote the following quotation:

"'La Libertad es uno de los mas precisos dones que los cielos dieron a los hombres,' and continued: "Liberty is what we are fighting for, because, as I have just written, it is one of the most glorious gifts that God has bestowed upon man.' . . .

"Home rule in its broadest sense is independence. That is the kind of home rule we want. If you mean would we accept home rule with a Spanish captain-general, I would answer most emphatically, No. We want nothing from Spain but our rights. We do not want her captain-general nor her glory, if she has any remaining, nor her care.

"The hatred for Spain is so deeply rooted in this island that I am sure that a very large majority of our people, those under arms and those who have not yet had opportunity to go into the field, would rather, if they thought the revolution was going to fail, go abroad and live among strangers than stay in Cuba under a continuation of the Spanish power. As for me personally I would prefer hell and the domination of the devil than my beloved island with a Spanish captain-general."

The press of the United States in general declare that Spain's proposals fail to meet the essential requirement of colonial home rule, local control of taxation, and the Spanish Government is criticized accordingly. The Chicago *Inter Ocean* compares the plan to the decree of 1895, to find it better "in the larger measures of home rule to municipalities and provinces, and in the Cubanizing of the council of administration," but "no better in the limitations of the power of the governor-general, nor in ridding Cuba of debt and tax fixed by Spain." The Boston *Advertiser* points out that "there is nothing in these reforms to prevent a return of the very misgovernment and oppression which incited the present revolution." The Baltimore *Herald* notes that autonomists in Porto Rico denounce the reforms in a manifesto, and thinks that the proposal for Cuba "would probably satisfy rich men in Havana and the Spanish sympathizers of the capital, but beyond that they will be recognized as bogus promises of a deceptive and tyrannical government." The Savannah *News*, like a great section of the press, declares:

"We do not believe the Cuban leaders have any idea of accepting the terms which Spain offers, or any other terms. If Spain should grant Cuba such autonomy as Canada enjoys, the Cubans might think of accepting it; but if they should accept the sham home rule which Spain offers, they would be but little, if any, better off than they were before they took up arms for independence."

The New York *Herald* is an exception in saying in this connection: "Let the Jingoes keep their hands off and the Government give Spain a fair chance to solve the problem by autonomy and pacification."

THE PRESS ON LIQUOR LEGISLATION.

PRESIDENT ELIOT'S preliminary report of certain investigations into the legislative aspects of the drink problem (reviewed in THE LITERARY DIGEST, February 6) has caused plenty of comment in the secular press, and comment not altogether commendatory in tone. Many journals quote the report on alleged evils of prohibitory legislation without giving that portion of the report which sets forth the alleged advantages. We quote the following editorial expressions.

Lax Enforcement of Punitive Laws, and Education.—"The lax enforcement of punitive laws is a chief cause of the prevalence of crime in this country, whether those laws have been in regard to the liquor traffic or other topics. Taken upon the proposition of its punitive laws alone, matters are growing worse; hence the view held by so many that the Government is a failure and that ultimate national disaster, as a result of national debasement into criminality, can not be averted.

"But there is another aspect of the case to be considered, in which workers for moral elevation can find considerable hope. This can be illustrated in its special application to temperance legislation. For instance, Professor Eliot says:

"'It can not be positively affirmed that any one kind of liquor legislation has been more successful than another in promoting real temperance. Legislation as a cause of improvement can rarely be separated from other possible cases. The influences of race or nationality are apparently more important than legislation.'

"Here the chief of Harvard indirectly enunciates a principle which, in his present article, he does not make applicable to the case in hand. He points out a more important influence than legislation—and by the latter he means laws of a punitive character. But he does not point out that that more important influence can be directed aright by educational legislation; that is, by laws requiring the education of the race or nation upon this very subject."—*The Deseret News, Salt Lake City, Utah.*

Dr. Wines and the Iowa Mulct Law.—"The mulct law seems to be scantily referred to in the report. Dr. Wines, while he was pleased with many features of that law and commended their practical workings, was at the same time not wholly satisfied with the law because it seemed to him to be more or less artificial and unscientific. The committee seems to express rather a preference for the system in vogue in Missouri, that is license with police supervision by appointment through the governor.

"This conclusion may be satisfactory to the committee, but it leaves the question where it was before this committee undertook its labors of scientific investigation. The fact is that no general deductions can be made on a question of this nature. In Iowa we have come to the conclusion that the best solution of it lies with the localities. But in Iowa we have the advantage of a generally healthy public sentiment. Under our mulct law, for instance, the burden of proof in any locality is thrown on the saloon element, and unless those elements can prove their case, upon the signatures of the people, or voters, prohibition remains in effect. Under that system two thirds of the counties of the State have maintained, and that successfully, a good degree of prohibition. We still prefer this law to the laws of Missouri."—*The State Register, Des Moines, Iowa.*

Vindication of Prohibition.—"The first observation we have to make on this report is that the investigation was made, not by these three able gentlemen [Low, Eliot, and Carter] of whom everybody knows, but by two other gentlemen, Dr. Frederic H. Wines, of Springfield, Ill., and Mr. John Koren, of Boston, of whom a comparatively small section of the world knows anything at all. . . .

"The result, as summed up by Dr. Eliot, is that 'it can not be positively affirmed that any one kind of liquor legislation has been more successful than another in promoting real temperance. . . . That law is best which is best administered.' In other words, as we Prohibitionists have been saying for years, it is not simply a question of enacting law, but of putting a party in sympathy with the law behind it to enforce it. Now, inasmuch as every one of these various legislative systems has had behind it a party in favor of it, *excepting Prohibition alone, which has always had behind it a license party*, the conclusion of the committee must be taken as an announcement of more or less complete failure for all the systems except Prohibition.

"On Prohibition as it is administered, the report of the committee is a further justification of the Prohibitionists' views. What are those views? They are, briefly stated, these: that a prohibitory law reduces the temptation to drink and the inducements to sell; but can not be completely effective until it has, first, a party committed to it in power, and, second, until the cooperation of the national Government, in its power over interstate commerce, internal revenue, and foreign relations, is secured. . . . The committee, however, proceeds to enumerate certain evil effects from prohibitory legislation, such as hypocrisy, corruption of courts, perjury of officials, and consequent contempt of the public for law and the machinery for its enforcement. These evils, however, are not peculiar to Prohibition, as the committee very fairly observes. We may extend the observation, and remark that all kinds of criminal law breed such evils. . . .

"Altogether, the committee's report, in so far as published, is a vindication not only of Prohibition, but of the Prohibition Party method of securing and maintaining it. Even the good results noted by the report in other systems are, as we might easily point

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out, due to the prohibitory features present in them."—*The Voice (Proh.), New York.*

Make Things Seem Better, and Hope.—"We infer from this that all liquor laws are in a measure essentially and necessarily bad; indeed, Dr. Eliot goes on to say that 'almost every sort of liquor legislation creates some specific evil in politics.' But if they are bad there may be a general growth of temperance among the people, altho there are no statistics to prove it, and no one can be sure that legislation has ever had any effect that way. So far as liquor laws are concerned, all we can do is to make things seem better and then hope that real improvement is going on.

"It is evident that this sub-committee, consisting of Dr. Eliot, Seth Low, and James C. Carter, expect little advance to be made toward the extermination of the drink evil through liquor laws."—*The Republican, Springfield, Mass.*

"While it can not be positively affirmed, President Eliot declares, that any one kind of liquor legislation has been more successful than another in promoting real temperance, the Missouri law makes a better showing than any of the rest in the way of the general promotion of order, quiet, and outward decency. 'In St. Louis,' he says, 'where the saloons are numerous and unrestrained, public order is excellent, and arrests for drunkenness are comparatively few; but this good condition is perhaps due as much to the quality of the population as to the wisdom of the liquor legislation.' A perfect system of dealing with the liquor traffic has not yet been devised; but gratifying progress has been made in that direction, as this investigation demonstrates, and the cause of temperance is constantly gaining ground in all parts of the country."—*The Globe-Democrat, St. Louis, Mo.*

"We would suggest, nevertheless, that there would be no saloons if there were no demand for them, and that the best field for the work of the advocate of temperance is in the home and the school. Bring up the rising generation to know the evils and the dangers of the drink habit, and, above all, impress on young men the disgrace of getting drunk. The trouble is that too many do not realize that getting drunk is a thing to be ashamed of. They have a queer idea that it is rather manly than otherwise to get drunk. This foolish notion should be eradicated. Children should be educated, more especially at home, as to the indecency of over-eating and over-drinking, and as to the effects of wines and liquors of all kinds. Raise up a people who will not drink and there will be no need of laws against saloons."—*The News and Courier, Charleston, S. C.*

"The above criticism [creation of a political machine] would apply just as well to legislation on other lines. The industries affected would organize for protection against bad legislation. A state supervision of food involves the creation of a machine, and when managed in the way that the Ohio food commission has been it breeds many evils. In New York State, legislation in the interest of farmers led to laws against oleomargarin, and the establishment of a dairy commissioner, with lieutenants and detectives all over the State. The evils, in proportion to the interests involved, are as great as those resulting from liquor legislation."—*The American Grocer, St. Louis.*

POWER OF STATES TO TAX CORPORATIONS.

THE Supreme Court of the United States, on February 1, decided cases of far-reaching importance by upholding the right of States to tax capital stock values of foreign corporations claiming to be engaged in interstate commerce, and by affirming the right of a State to impose a penalty upon corporations delinquent in taxpaying. In the tax cases coming from Ohio the court decided in favor of the State by a vote of 5 to 4. The law upheld is known as the Nichols law, by which express, telegraph, and telephone companies become subject to taxes in three forms—on their real estate, on their gross receipts from business done within the State, and on valuation assessed by a state board. It was the last-named assessment which the express companies fought. In the three years 1893, 1894, and 1895 the state board had increased the valuation of property assessed under the law from $289,862 to $4,249,702, this valuation having been determined by taking the market value of the entire capital stock of the express companies as a basis for arriving at the true value in money of the companies' property in the State of Ohio. In the cases coming from Indiana the court upheld the validity of the state law of 1893, which provides for the taxation of telephone, telegraph, palace-car, sleeping-car, dining-car, express and fast-freight companies, and empowers the state board of tax commissioners to assess taxation other than that of a local character, and imposes a penalty of 50 per cent. upon those failing to pay their taxes at the time specified.

The text of the decision of the court on the principles involved has not yet been made public. Justice White, for the dissenting justices, holds that the decision detracts from the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce.

The Nichols Law and Its Effect.—"The principle of the law applies equally to street and steam railroads, natural and artificial gas companies, pipe-line, freight-line, sleeping-car, and other quasi-public corporations, as well as to telegraph, telephone, and express companies which are covered by the terms of the law. It provides a method for valuing the property of these companies as a unit, which is a just and practicable method for valuing this property for taxation. It does not seek to reach new subjects of taxation, but to provide a method for the valuation of existing subjects of taxation and for ascertaining the true value in money of the property of these companies within the State, subject to the taxing power of the State.

"In the matter of the three classes of companies now under its operation in this State, telegraph, telephone, and express companies, it has more than quadrupled the tax valuation of the property of these companies, and increased in a like proportion the taxes paid by the companies. In the case of some of them, the value upon which they now pay taxes is at least six times greater than under the method existing prior to the passage of the law. In the case of the Western Union Telegraph Company, the aggregate value of its property as taxed in the State of Ohio prior to 1893 was less than $500,000. Under the Nichols law, which has been held to be just, valid, and constitutional, the property of that company is now on the duplicate at over two millions. It has produced similar results proportionately in the property of the express and telephone companies.

"The principle of the Nichols law has not yet been applied to steam railroads, street railroads, gas, electric-light, and pipe-line companies. A law was pending in the last session of the Ohio legislature to do this, but it was defeated by the combined opposition of these corporations, led by powerful legal and political influences. The legislature defeated the bill and accepted from these corporations a tax of ½ of 1 per cent. on their gross receipts in lieu thereof. The effect of this was to relieve the corporations of from three fourths to nine tenths of the amount of taxes they would have paid had they been subjected to the operation of the Nichols law, and under which they would not have paid more than their fair share of the burdens of taxation."—*Thomas McDougall, Author of the Nichols Law, in The Post, Cincinnati, Ohio.*

Relief to Real Estate.—"The victory proves that, in spite of our old, worn-out Constitution, it is possible to lift the burden of taxation to some extent from real estate and place it upon the great corporations. The decision means that the taxes due from this source for the past three years must now be paid, with attached penalties. As seven eighths of this tax goes to the counties, the decision is of local as well as general interest. It means an increase of taxes from this source of $30,000 a year, while the amount now due will reach $130,000. It is a victory for the Republican Party in this State, which can always be depended on to look after the interest of the taxpayers. There is no disposition to make this tax excessive, but it is believed that these corporations should pay a fair and adequate sum for the business they do, and that, in so doing, the burden of taxation will be more equally distributed."—*The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.*

A Weapon of Offense and Defense.—"The most suggestive feature of the decision is its almost direct statement that the clause of the Constitution providing that Congress shall regulate commerce between the States does not prevent the States from laying crushing burdens on companies which pursue any variety

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of the transportation or transmission business. It may be thought that the Supreme Court has gone contrary to its prescribed duty. But its declared judgment will scarcely be overruled. From it important and far-reaching incidents will probably date. It is impossible to see why, for example, in South Carolina, where the express companies prevent the exclusion of liquor privately bought outside the State, a tax can not be laid on the companies which will make business unprofitable in that Commonwealth. Again, it seems to be possible for States, strictly construing the principle enunciated by the Supreme Court, to tax railroads on their capitalization. Indeed, the Indiana law does impose a levy on all fast-freight companies, whether they own mileage and cars or not. When States can erect such barriers to the prosperity of great corporations, especially monopolies like the Western Union, upon good and safe constitutional law, their legislatures may remedy or destroy any restrictions placed on private rights by those companies."—*The Journal, Providence, R. I.*

"If the decision works any hardship on the express and telegraph companies, outside of any possible abuse of power by the States, it will probably be through the taxation imposed at the point of incorporation. But this could be remedied without much trouble. When no State can levy taxes on any property it does not contain the danger of injustice toward the corporations will be reduced to the minimum, and if the corporations are willing to pay a fair tax on their invested capital, the taxation by each State of what is actually invested therein should cause no opposition or complaint."—*The Tribune, Sioux City, Iowa.*

ESSENTIALS OF CONSULAR REFORM.

THE demand for reform in the consular service of the Government has been of long standing. An executive order issued in 1895 is credited with causing some improvement, for it provided for the filling of certain vacancies by transfer or promotion in the Department of State, or by appointment upon qualifying service or examination. The evils to be remedied and the present power of the executive in the matter are stated as follows (*The Forum*, February) by W. W. Rockhill, Assistant Secretary of State:

"Briefly then, the principal evils of our consular system have been:

"1. Imperfect mode of selection of consular officers.

"2. No permanency of tenure.

"3. Inadequate compensation; resulting in (*a*) the exaction of excessive fees, and (*b*) the creation of consular agencies to increase salary.

"4. Excessive number of feed consulates and commercial agencies.

"5. Imperfect enforcement of regulations, especially as regards amounts of fees and their collection.

"In the light of past experience we have little ground for hoping that the legislative branch of the Government will soon take more interest in this subject than it has in the past. Congressional action in the premises being therefore, to my mind, a very remote tho devoutly-to-be-sought-for contingency, the question arises, 'What can the executive branch of the Government do to correct the evils complained of, and to promote, under existing laws, the efficiency of the consular corps?'

"1. It can adopt a fixed mode of admission and promotion.

"2. It can prescribe (with the exception of certain fees fixed by law) the fees to be collected by consuls.

"3. It can regulate the number of feed consulates and of commercial and consular agencies. [Mr. Rockhill asserts that at least 100 out of 158 consular agencies might be closed, and the commercial agencies reduced from 30 to 15, or even abolished.] . . .

"The reforms which I have suggested as being within the power of the Executive to bring about need not, in fact should not, be carried out suddenly, but gradually, and might advantageously be made to extend over four or even eight years; but, that they should be introduced and consistently followed out to their natural and logical conclusion, there can be no doubt. They embody the experience of more than half a century, and have been persistently called for by those best qualified to speak on the subject. It makes little difference whether the first step in the way which we know to be the right one be taken at the beginning or the end of an Administration; the essential thing is not to stop the advance; not to retard, in expectation of some possible, vaguely promised action of Congress, the movement to raise the standard of efficiency in our consular service."

The progress of inspection of consulates and the need of it, mentioned by Mr. Rockhill, have been dwelt upon by President Search of the National Association of Manufacturers, whose annual address to the Association last month has furnished the text for many newspaper editorials. We quote President Search as follows:

"The first need of the service is a thorough and impartial inspection of all the foreign offices for the purpose of ascertaining the changes in *personnel* and in organization calculated to promote the efficiency of the service. Such an inspection was urged with much emphasis by the National Association of Manufacturers at its last annual convention, and we now have the pleasure of seeing this work actually in progress as the result of a measure passed by Congress at its last session. . . .

"Even with the information in hand, however, the State Department can not place the consular service upon the desired basis of efficiency without new laws governing appointments, removals, promotions, and compensation. To secure the best men and the highest degree of efficiency in the service the absolute essentials are these:

"1. A system of appointments and promotions based solely upon merit.

"2. Tenure of office during continued good conduct and competency.

"3. Compensation sufficient to induce competent men to enter and remain in the service.

"The consular service of the United States is essentially a business institution, and it should be organized and conducted upon strictly business principles. The need for a thorough reorganization of the consular service, both in the system and its *personnel*, is impressed upon us with particular emphasis just at this time by the approaching change in the national administration and the attendant scramble for the most desirable offices. It has recently been pointed out by an ex-consul that since March 4, 1893, there have been changes in about 240 out of a total of 300 consular offices, or four out of every five, and those offices which have not been changed are those of minor importance only. No matter how competent the men may be, such sweeping changes must greatly impair the efficiency of the service. . . .

"A careful investigation of the principal consular offices in South America is now being made by representatives of the National Association of Manufacturers, and its completion will place us in possession of much reliable information concerning the qualifications of the men who now occupy these positions."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

IF the coffin-makers really have formed a trust they are running competition into the ground.—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

IT is reported from Ohio that Mark Hanna will not be able to get past Mr. Foraker's trocha on his way to the Senate.—*The Record, Chicago.*

Having succeeded in burning up $300,000, it is to be hoped Mrs. [Bradley] Martin feels a good deal better.—*The Record, Chicago.*

MR. CLEVELAND is said to look forward with eagerness to the end of his term. It is a pleasure to note that for once he is in accord with his constituents.—*The Tribune, Scranton, Pa.*

THE investigation of trusts in New York shows that we need some kind of legislation that will give the heads of corporations better memories.—*The News, Indianapolis.*

NOW that New York has tired of the Seeley dinner and the Bradley Martin ball, it is quarreling over Jonah and the whale. What awful fools these mortals be!—*The Journal of the Knights of Labor, Washington, D. C.*

"LYMAN J. GAGE, MCKINLEY'S SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, IS A SPIRITUALIST."—PRESS DISPATCH.
—*The Post, Cincinnati.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

EMERSON'S ATTACK UPON WEBSTER.

THAT Ralph Waldo Emerson had at first little or no sympathy with the Abolitionists, nor indeed with any of the other schools of reformers that were making the political waters boil and seethe in and about Boston back in the forties, is well known. While he indorsed their general aims, their methods were repugnant to him. "He who aims at progress," he wrote, "should aim at an infinite, not at a special benefit. The reforms whose fame now fills the land with temperance, anti-slavery, non-resistance, no-government, equal labor, fair and generous as each appears, are poor bitter things when prosecuted for themselves as an end." He made no discrimination at first between the Abolitionists and the other reformers, unless it were that the Abolitionists were more distasteful to him because more active. "Those," he said, "who are urging with most ardor what are called the greatest benefits to mankind are narrow, conceited, self-pleasing men and affect us as the insane do." Recalling these utterances by Emerson, John Jay Chapman, in a very valuable study of Emerson (*Atlantic Monthly*, February), accounts in part for this attitude by the fact that Emerson had a different panacea of his own for human ills, namely, the development of each individual. He did not believe in association; certainly not in reform associations. Some time prior to 1844 he wrote the following, which Mr. Chapman calls "the most interesting page of Emerson's published journal":

"I had occasion to say the other day to Elizabeth Hoar that I like best the strong and worthy persons, like her father, who support the social order without hesitation or misgiving. I like these; they never incommode us by exciting grief, pity, or perturbation of any sort. But the professed philanthropists, it is strange and horrible to say, are an altogether odious set of people, whom one would shun as the worst of bores and canters. But my conscience, my unhappy conscience, respects that hapless class who see the faults and stains of our social order, and who pray and strive incessantly to right the wrong; this annoying class of men and women, tho they commonly find the work altogether beyond their faculty, and their results are, for the present, distressing. They are partial and apt to magnify their own. Yes, and the prostrate penitent, also—he is not comprehensive, he is not philosophical in those tears and groans. Yet I feel that under him and his partiality and exclusiveness is the earth and the sea and all that in them is, and the axis around which the universe revolves passes through his body where he stands."

But there came to Emerson a great change of attitude toward the Abolitionists, and it was Webster's course on the Fugitive Slave Law that effected this change. We quote from Mr. Chapman's article:

"Not pity for the slave, but indignation at the violation of the moral law by Daniel Webster, was at the bottom of Emerson's anger. His abolitionism was secondary to his main mission, his main enthusiasm. It is for this reason that he stands on a plane of intellect where he might, under other circumstances, have met and defeated Webster. After the 7th of March, 1850, he recognized in Webster the embodiment of all that he hated. In his attacks on Webster, Emerson trembles to his inmost fiber with antagonism. He is savage, destructive, personal, bent on death.

"This exhibition of Emerson as a fighting animal is magnificent and explains his life. There is no other instance of his ferocity. No other nature but Webster's ever so moved him; but it was time to be moved, and Webster was a man of his size. Had these two great men of New England been matched in training as they were matched in endowment, and had they then faced each other in debate, they would not have been found to differ so greatly in power. Their natures were electrically repellant, but from which did the greater force radiate? Their education differed so radically that it is impossible to compare them, but if you translate the Phi Beta Kappa address into politics, you have something stronger than Webster—something that recalls Chatham; and Emerson would have had this advantage—that he was not afraid. As it was, he left his library and took the stump. Mr. Cabot has given us extracts from his speeches.

"'The tameness is indeed complete; all are involved in one hot haste of terror—presidents of colleges and professors, saints and brokers, lawyers and manufacturers; not a liberal recollection, not so much as a snatch of an old song for freedom, dares intrude on their passive obedience. . . . Mr. Webster, perhaps, is only following the laws of his blood and constitution. I suppose his pledges were not quite natural to him. He is a man who lives by his memory; a man of the past, not a man of faith and of hope. All the drops of his blood have eyes that look downward, and his finely developed understanding only works truly and with all its force when it stands for animal good; that is, for property. He looks at the Union as an estate, a large farm, and is excellent in the completeness of his defense of it so far. What he finds already written he will defend. Lucky that so much had got well written when he came, for he has no faith in the power of self-government. Not the smallest municipal provision, if it were new, would receive his sanction. In Massachusetts, in 1776, he would, beyond all question, have been a refugee. He praises Adams and Jefferson, but it is a past Adams and Jefferson. A present Adams or Jefferson he would denounce. . . . But one thing appears certain to me: that the Union is at an end as soon as an immoral law is enacted. He who writes a crime into the statute-book digs under the foundations of the Capitol. . . . The words of John Randolph, wiser than he knew, have been ringing ominously in all echoes for thirty years: "We do not govern the people of the North by our black slaves, but by their own white slaves." . . . They come down now like the cry of fate, in the moment when they are fulfilled.'

"The exasperation of Emerson did not subside, but went on increasing during the next four years, and on March 7, 1854, he read his lecture on the Fugitive Slave Law at the New York Tabernacle: 'I have lived all my life without suffering any inconvenience from American slavery. I never saw it; I never heard the whip; I never felt the check on my free speech and action, until the other day, when Mr. Webster, by his personal influence, brought the Fugitive Slave Law on the country. I say Mr. Webster, for tho the bill was not his, it is yet notorious that he was the life and soul of it, that he gave it all he had. It cost him his life, and under the shadow of his great name inferior men sheltered themselves, threw their ballots for it, and made the law.'

"It was too late for Emerson to shine as a political debater. On May 14, 1857, Longfellow wrote in his diary, 'It is rather painful to see Emerson in the arena of politics, hissed and hooted at by young law students.' Emerson records a similar experience at a later date: 'If I were dumb, yet would I have gone and mowed and muttered or made signs. The mob roared whenever I attempted to speak, and after several beginnings I withdrew.' There is nothing 'painful' here; it is the sublime exhibition of a great soul in bonds to circumstance."

Byron's Famous Slip.—As "all the world" knows, one of the stanzas in Byron's famous apostrophe to the ocean ("Roll on, thou deep and dark blue ocean, roll," etc.) ends with the baldly ungrammatical expression, "there let him lay," followed by a period. A new edition of Byron appearing recently in England, some one wrote to the publisher insisting that Byron must have meant to have no mark at all after the word lay, but that the sentence ran on to the next stanza, as follows:

> There let him lay
> The armaments which thunderstrike the walls, etc.

In reply the publisher, Murray, writes as follows:

"In answer to your inquiry I write to inform you that the well-known passage in the fourth Canto of 'Childe Harold,' 'There let him lay,' is no misprint. I have the original in my possession and the word and the full stop are as clear as can possibly be.

"Moreover, the stanza beginning 'The armaments which thunderstrike the walls,' etc., was not in the original draft, but was added last of all.

"As originally written the word 'lay' was followed by 'Thou glorious mirror,' etc., so that it could not have been Byron's intention to run on the sense from one stanza to the next.

"He uses the word 'lay' in a similar incorrect way elsewhere."

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THE GREATEST MASTER OF SONG.

"IN the field of the song," writes Kenyon West, apropos of the Schubert centenary January 31, "Schubert has no rival, not even Schumann or Franz. However artistically Schumann, Franz, Brahms, and others have developed the song, they but carried out the principles which Schubert was the first to discover and unfold." Yet Schubert's life ended at the age of thirty-one (not twenty-five, as the article from *The Gentleman's Magazine*

FRANZ SCHUBERT.

reprinted in our columns last week erroneously stated), and his life was spent in poverty and comparative obscurity. We quote from Mr. West's article (*Outlook*, February 6):

"In writing about Franz Schubert every one is tempted to lay stress upon his poverty, his few opportunities for general culture, his unpleasing personal appearance, the constant failure of his hopes in gaining public recognition of his operas and symphonies, the pathos of his never having heard rendered some of his greatest orchestral works. Few even of his songs were published during his lifetime. Goethe, whom he adored, and whose poems he took as subjects for some of the most beautiful music the world has ever heard—even Goethe ignored him. Then, just as life seemed opening out before him, his songs being sung, and winning enthusiasm and applause, and publishers flocking around him—then must come failing health, the sweet singer must falter, and the exquisite music cease at the early age of thirty-one. When we realize that had Beethoven died at thirty-one we should have had from him only one symphony, we can appreciate what Schubert crowded into those busy, fruitful years of his brief life.

"Aside from the love and sympathy which made his childhood happy, there were few advantages in being the son of a simple schoolmaster who had such a large family that there was very little for any single member of it. Franz had an old piano on which to play, and he picked up some knowledge of music at school. But he was largely self-taught. He grasped the mighty principles of harmony by intuition. A famous musician said, 'He has learned everything, and God has been his teacher.' . . .

"Except for the marvelous music which from early boyhood to the last few weeks of his life Schubert constantly brought forth from the seemingly exhaustless resources of his genius, his life was uneventful. His activity was limited only by his supply of music-paper. Sometimes he hadn't any money to buy it, and then, when his friends hadn't any, he had to go without. Many an exquisite melody floated off into space because he could not catch it on the wing. After leaving the Stadt-Konvict he taught three years in his father's school. He must have often served his pupils with a divided mind, for during these years something distinctive and beautiful was composed almost daily. To this period belongs that masterpiece, the 'Mass in G.' It was as natural for Franz Schubert to create music as it is for a bird to sing. He did it with the same freshness and spontaneity, the same unconscious grace. From the one hundred and fifty songs, the masses, the operas and symphonies of this period, one work of Schubert's stands out in all its glory. One gloomy winter's day a friend found him in one of the narrow rooms of his father's house, pacing the floor in great excitement. He had been reading Goethe's 'Erlking,' and its weird beauty appealed to him with irresistible power. His imagination was all on fire. He was with the terrified child; he could hear the tramp of the horses' hoofs; he could hear the caressing voice of the phantom, the soothing voice of the father in answer. The whole scene of this night-ride through the lonely forest became so vivid that he seized paper and pencil, and with feverish haste the immortal poem was set to immortal music.

"Albert B. Bach has but recently told for the first time the story of Schubert's taking the song to show it to his former schoolmates, how they flocked in, how he played the accompaniment for Randhartinger, how Randhartinger had to sing it over and over, and how the smiling composer was rewarded by numerous presents of music-paper on which to write more of this marvelous music which thrilled by its dramatic intensity and opened out unending vistas to the imagination. In the following year was written 'The Wanderer,' that song of wonderful power and pathos which is scarcely less famous than 'The Erlking.'"

Mr. West goes on to tell us how Schubert, after applying in vain for various positions, consented at last to teach the daughters of Count von Esterhazy, but fell in love with Caroline, and, knowing his love to be hopeless, soon ceased, presumably on that account alone, to give the lessons. Schubert had many warm friends, who, Mr. West thinks, have been unjustly blamed for not doing more for him. Several times when his pockets were well filled he showed a thoughtless prodigality, and there was also a trace of obstinacy which made him intractable at times with publishers. His character on the whole, however, bears investigation exceedingly well, and he exhibited commendable fortitude in bearing disappointments. His greatest fault was fondness for wine:

"But only occasionally did he forget his dignity, and the amount of work he did in his brief life is the most unanswerable argument in his favor. But Schubert had the faculty of composing in surroundings which would be thought to be a check upon freedom of expression. In a noisy beer-shop one day he picked up a volume of Shakespeare and was heard to say that a most beautiful melody had come into his head, and had he but music-paper he would write it down. A friend hastily drew some staves across the back of a bill of fare, and then and there was written 'Hark, Hark, the Lark!'"

The service which Schubert rendered to the world in the development of song is thus described:

"Before Schubert, the song, in spite of its beauty, was, with very few exceptions, limited in range; the accompaniments were for the most part of the simplest description or were not an integral part of the whole, while the general structure was lacking in dramatic fitness, in harmony with the demands of the words. Schubert appropriated that which was best in the national song, elaborated it, idealized it, made it over into a fairer, sweeter, larger form.

"Entering with the strength and passion of a true poet into the meaning of the poetry he chose to set, feeling with the mood of the poet, thrilled by the same emotion, he reproduced it with vivid and striking power in his music—the vocal parts being intensified by peculiarly rich and highly developed accompaniments. We are again confronted by the difficulty of definition. But one secret of Schubert's power in the song is that he seems to have a musical expression for every kind and variety of emotion of which the human heart is capable. Beautiful melodies, frequent and unexpected modulations, even occasional discords, form his means of expression. He so entered into the spirit of the poems of Goethe and other poets that he seized at once, by divine intuition, the most characteristic and fitting music for them. With glorious freedom and insight he followed the changes in the thought or the action of the poetry. Then, too, nature's aspects and changes find glorious expression. Schubert's songs are among the finest examples of what is called descriptive music. His tone-painting, his coloring, is both wonderful and varied. There are magnificent contrasts, not only between the different songs, but often between the individual parts of the same song."

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A REMINISCENCE OF TENNYSON.

AN anonymous writer in "The Contributors' Club" of *The Atlantic Monthly* (February) gives us an interesting little account of his acquaintanceship with Tennyson at the latter's home on the Isle of Wight. Tennyson had Maurice for a visitor and the writer, being at the time (1858) a resident near by, had arranged with Maurice beforehand to call upon him at Tennyson's:

"I went, accordingly, and saw Tennyson and his wife. I was admitted, moreover, into the upstairs sanctum, where he did his work over a pipe. Nor do I recollect anything more interesting in the course of my life than the talks between Tennyson and Maurice in that little room. Tennyson's attitude toward Maurice was altogether deferential; nay, reverential. I remember one particular talk about the book of Ecclesiastes. Tennyson said it was the one book the admission of which into the canon he could not understand, it was so utterly pessimistic—of the earth, earthy. Maurice fired up. 'Yes, if you leave out the last two verses. But the conclusion of the whole matter is: "Fear God and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil." So long as you look only down upon earth, all is "vanity of vanities." But if you look up, there is a God, the judge of good and evil.' Tennyson said he would think over the matter from that point of view."

After Maurice had left, the writer paid a number of other visits to the Tennysons, and gives this bit of a conversation during one of them:

"About that time the newspapers contained the story of some one who had fallen heir to a fortune on condition of his assuming the 'name and arms of Smith.' Tennyson raged about it. Nobody ever left fortunes to poets. Why didn't some one leave him £50,000 on condition of his taking the name and arms of Smith? He would do so at once. 'No, you wouldn't,' I put in. 'I would do it, and I would never write another line.' 'Yes, you would,' I persisted; and so it went on. It is rather curious to observe that his brother Charles changed his name under somewhat similar circumstances, becoming Tennyson-Turner. But I still refuse to believe that Alfred would have become Tennyson-Smith for a consideration."

The following incident shows Tennyson in one of his ugly moods:

"Altho for those few weeks I was with the Tennysons on a footing almost of intimacy, I never saw either of them again. One evening at Macmillan's, when I was in the drawing-room some one told me (I think it was Mr. Hughes) that Tennyson had come, but that he was in a very bad humor, would not leave the ante-room, and seemed determined to contradict everybody. I stayed where I was!"

Poe's Opinion of "The Raven."—In the judgment of Joel Benton (*The Forum*, February) Poe's fame as a poet rests for the most part upon three poems, "The Raven," "The Bells," and "Annabel Lee." When Poe composed "The Raven," he was on familiar terms with William Ross Wallace, author of "The Sword of Bunker Hill," and the two poets were in the habit of reading to each other their verses. Benton vouches for the substance of the following colloquy related to him by Wallace, which shows what Poe thought of his now most famous poem:

"'Wallace,' said Poe, 'I have just written the greatest poem that ever was written.'

"'Have you?' said Wallace. 'That is a fine achievement.'

"'Would you like to hear it?' said Poe.

"'Most certainly,' said Wallace.

"Thereupon Poe began to read the so to-be famous verses in his best way—which I believe was always an impressive and captivating way. When he had finished it he turned to Wallace for his approval of them—when Wallace said:

"'Poe—they are fine; uncommonly fine.'

"'Fine?' said Poe contemptuously. 'Is that all you can say for this poem? I tell you it's the greatest poem that was ever written.'

"And then they separated—not, however, before Wallace had tried to placate, with somewhat more pronounced praise, the pettish poet."

IBSEN ON HIS OWN PLAYS AND CHARACTERS.

THAT piquant literary quarrel between the two greatest Norwegian writers, Ibsen and Björnson, arising from the charge that in "Borkman," the latest Ibsen drama, there is a veiled attempt to depict the private life of Björnson, lends special interest to Ibsen's explanation of his method of gathering material and observing human nature. Certain critics have regarded Ibsen's men and women as caricatures rather than as true types, but the dramatist insists that he takes them from real life, and that what appears to people of other civilizations to be unnatural, crude, impossible, and distorted is not at all strange to those who know Norwegian manners and conditions. In the current *Humanitarian*, London, there is the report of an interview with Ibsen at Christiania by R. H. Sherard. According to Mr. Sherard, the Norwegians repudiate Ibsen and resent his pessimism, as is indicated by an episode told as follows:

"During six weeks I saw him almost every day, for he pays two daily visits at fixed hours to the hotel at which I was staying, and on no single occasion did I ever see him in any company. He was always alone, whether sitting behind his glass in the little inner room at the Grand Hotel, reading the Norwegian papers, or perambulating the Karl Johann's Gade with his hands behind his back. And as he is out of doors, so he is also in his house in the Victoria Terrasse, a solitary man, manifesting a real dislike for family life. He never visits his one son, Dr. Sigurd Ibsen, who is almost as great a recluse as his father. Indeed, when this son married one of the daughters of Björnstjerne Björnson, Dr. Ibsen kept away from the wedding.

"This sadness, this want of sociability on his part, struck me as so abnormal on the part of a Norwegian—for the Norwegians are in the main jovial and fond of society—that I could not help expressing my surprise on the subject to Björnson, whose neighbor at table I was at a dinner given by Mr. Thommessen, editor and part proprietor of the *Verden's Gang*.

"'But, Ibsen,' cried Björnson, 'is not a Norwegian at all. He comes of a Scotch family, and that explains his Calvinism, his despairing views on life and on men. It is indeed a grievance to the Norwegians that this export trade of pessimism in Christiania should have been founded by a foreigner.'"

Ibsen's dismal mode of life in a town that is far from cheerful at its best prompted Mr. Sherard to ask the dramatist why he lives in Christiania. The conversation resulting was in part as follows:

"It is the most immoral town in Europe, and there is no town in Europe where a student of social life can find better subjects. Marriage, for instance, is practically non-existent here, and that is due first to the abolition by the police of all government-controlled prostitution, such as used to flourish here until recently, an abolition which has driven our young men into the alcoves of their neighbors, as an alternative to disease of the worst kind, and secondly to the ease with which, thanks to recent legislation, divorces can be obtained in Norway.'

"'Is that so easy a matter here?'

"'Yes, a man or a woman can now get a divorce in a few weeks by a mere application to a magistrate, who decides the question administratively, that is to say, without any civil process, and who never refuses to separate a couple who may have got tired of each other. So that, it being so easy for a man or a woman to get divorced, marriage is deprived of half its terrors in the eyes of our people, and there is little reason for the *union libre*, which flourishes in parts of Germany and in France, where divorces are not so easily obtained.'

"'Are you in favor of the free union?'

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"'I?' cried Dr. Ibsen. 'I? I am in favor of nothing. I suggest no remedies. My plays are not doctrinary. They describe life as I see it——'

"'Here in Norway?' I interrupted.

"'Certainly. I am a Norwegian dramatist and my plays describe life as I see it in Norway. They do not profess to indicate how a better state of things could be introduced. I am not a teacher. I am a painter, a portrait-painter.'

"'But a portrait, a picture, can often be made to convey a lesson more effectively than any other means.'

"Dr. Ibsen slightly shrugged his shoulders. 'I am not a teacher,' he repeated.

"It was some days before I could tackle him again, that is to say, before I found him once more in a talkative humor. I then reverted to the sociological questions which I had been instructed to put to him.

"'Do you think the woman question *the* question of the future?'

"He smiled. 'Why of the future?' he said. 'Has it not always been *the* question, is it not *the* question now? There is no reason why it should ever cease to be *the* question. If you mean, however, to ask whether the immediate future will see the emancipation of women, that is to say, an equalization of their position with that of men, I say, no. There are many years, centuries, to pass before such emancipation takes place. It will be the result of a natural *processus*, the gradual increase of physical strength in women, combined with an increase of civil power, of wealth, and so on—not at all the result of the isolated action of a few foolish individuals.'

"'Then you think women should be admitted to political power?'

"'I never said so. *Gott bewahre!* I said they will gain an increase of civil power, inevitably, whether you or I think they should have it or not. They will attain equal powers with men. Have they not done so already in parts of America? But there, no doubt, the women are endeavoring to anticipate. These things can not be yet. *Das muss sich so Alles entwickeln.* Little by little the restrictions as to the holding of wealth, of property, by women will fall away, and simultaneously powers will be naturally conceded to the women to protect their property. Whether all women will care to exercise political power, to vote, and so on, is another question.'"

Ibsen protests warmly against the ascription to him of any views and doctrines on the strength of his descriptions of life. He distinctly declares that he neither generalizes nor moralizes in his plays. If his plays teach any lessons, the lessons are those taught by life itself. He simply tries to present faithful pictures of things as he observes them. Mr. Sherard happened to mention the doctrines of heredity on which the drama called "Ghosts" is based. The dramatist objected:

"'Doctrines! I have no doctrines. How often am I to tell you that my plays are not doctrinary? I describe what I have seen. I have seen the immense importance of the question of heredity, and I have described its effect in certain instances.'

"'Do you believe in hereditary transmission of mental and moral tendencies as well as in physical heredity?'

"'Most absolutely. But the two things are the same, practically.'

"'May not heredity be influenced by environment and education?'

"'You know that as well as I do,' said Dr. Ibsen, with some impatience. 'The conditions under which a child is trained, and the nature of its education, must have an immense influence on its moral tendencies, tho less on its mental, and still less on its physical tendencies. . . .'

"'Is there much drunkenness in Norway?'

"'A great deal in all classes. But great efforts are being made to check the spread of alcoholism by legislation. There is a strong temperance party here. But I do not think they will effect much. Indeed, since recent laws were passed, one sees more drunkards in the street than formerly.'

"'Do you regard drunkenness so much the cause of poverty as the result of it?'

"'It's a vicious circle. A man drinks to console himself for the wretchedness of his position, the smallness of his wages, and he remains in a wretched position, and can not improve his earnings because he drinks. On the whole, tho, I should say it was cause rather than result.'"

AMUSING LITERARY BLUNDERS.

IF John B. Gough had had Mr. George H. Westley's article in a recent issue of *The Home Journal*, he would have found plenty of material for a new lecture on his old subject of "Blunders." Mr. Westley writes on literary blunders alone, and divides them into blunders of translation, blunders of grammar, errors of construction, blunders geographical, blunders historical, zoological, indexical, and quotational.

He begins by calling down William Watson for the title of his poem, "Abdul the Damned." Abdul is not a name, but means slave or servant, and Abdul Hamid means "the servant of God." After chronicling some strange translations into English by French novels, such as "a dinner-wagon of baseness" (*étagère de bassesses*), and "he was thunderstruck in the back" (*il a été foudroyé par derrière*), and the rendering of "so wo-begone" into French as "*ainsi, douleur! va-t'en*," we are treated to the following side-splitters:

"In Fenimore Cooper's tale, 'The Spy,' Mr. Wharton, one of the characters, lives at a place called 'The Locusts.' This a French translator rendered '*Les Sauterelles.*' Evidently he had not heard of a tree called the locust; hence his mistake. But mark the ludicrous blunder that followed. Presently the translator came to a passage in the story where it was stated that a visitor had tied his horse to a locust. We can imagine him scratching his head perplexedly over this, and having strong doubts about his previous rendering. If he turned once again to his dictionary, he evidently found no assistance; so he wrote with a bold hand that the rider had secured his steed to a *sauterelle.* Then, taking a fresh dip of ink, he clinched the matter by gravely informing the reader that in America these insects grow to an enormous size; and that, in this case, one of these—dead and stuffed, of course—had been stationed at the door of the mansion for the convenience of visitors on horseback.

"But perhaps no work ever suffered more at the hands of the mistranslator than Dickens's novel, 'Our Mutual Friend.' This was secured to appear serially in *L'Opinion Nationale* of Paris, but the translator made such a botch of the job that, after a few chapters had been printed, the readers of the papers protested against the continuance of the story, and it came to an abrupt close. They claimed that the work was packed with absurdities, and no wonder, as the reader may judge from the following examples. The author wrote: 'There was an innocent piece of dinner furniture that went on easy castors.' The French rendering of the last five words of this sentence, translated back into English, would read, 'shod with large beaver slippers.' Again, Dickens, describing Podsnap, said: 'He had red beads on his forehead,' a sentence which, by some strange process, was made to read: 'He had a row of red buttons on his stomach.'

"Next to the blunder translational, we note the blunder grammatical. Some of the greatest writers have been guilty of this. In 'Ivanhoe,' for example, we find the following: 'A *tulchan* is a calf's skin stuffed and placed before a cow *who* has *its* calf, to induce the animal to part with *her* milk.' Then, in one of Thackeray's novels, we read: 'Neither of the sisters *were* very much displeased.' Even Ruskin, considered one of the greatest masters of English prose, erred in this respect. He wrote: 'I could have wished to have given more examples;' and again 'It means the most total destruction which a building can suffer.'

"As for errors in construction, take the following from Thackeray: 'He had his top-boots in his room in which he used to hunt in the holidays.' And this from George Eliot: 'She disentangled her foot from her netting and wound it up'—surely a very surprising anatomical feat. One of the most amusing blunders in syntax is to be found in Morse's old geography. According to it a certain town contained 'four hundred houses and four thousand inhabitants all standing with their gable ends to the street.' A good second to this is the following passage from a story by an

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author who is anonymous. He wrote: '"Quite a fight goin' on," conversationally drawled the soldier with the chicken whose trouser's leg was half gone.'"

A poem that won a prize in the French Academy had a line that ran: "And from the freezing to the burning pole." Professor Fisher speaks of President Polk's "second term," Browning writes of a "black lynx," Mme. D'Arblay derives phlegm from Flemings, and a Scotch writer finds the origin of "canteen" in the French pronunciation of "tin can," with the words reversed. An indexer is told about who made these entries:

Patti, Adelina
" oyster

Another made an entry as follows: "The Lord Chief Justice, his great mind," the passage indexed being: "The Lord Chief Justice said he had a great mind to commit the prisoner for contempt of court." We close with the following:

"A very common blunder is the blunder quotational. Perhaps the most general blunder of this class is in connection with the quotation: 'He who runs may read.' Tracing this back to its source, we find that the original phrase means something entirely different from that for which we employ its tortured representative. 'And the Lord answered me and said, Write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it' (Hab. ii. 2)."

A DISEASE OF MODERN JOURNALISM.

A WESTERN journal "for editors" has started "An American Fraternity of Writers" which has already "been able to save a great number of authors from pillage," meaning that it has forced certain wicked publishing-houses into reluctant payment for literary matter they have issued. Commenting on this *The Chap Book* has some sharp things to say editorially about "a disease of a very different kind," from which American literature and journalism are suffering:

"It is the wilful doing of work that is essentially worthless, and the doing of it simply for the sake of its reward. The childishness and insincerity of the great majority of American papers are due directly to this. . . . No newspaper press in the world is so devoid of high aim, so utterly commercial as our own. One may have contributed to and worked among the papers and magazines of three continents and five countries without meeting with such foolishness and recklessness and vulgarity as may be found in the Sunday editions of even our best newspapers. The man who writes inferior matter for an inferior paper does a real service to literature by being swindled out of his payment. I would not lift a little finger to protect him."

The succeeding issue of the same "journal of protest" continues in the same vein and becomes bitter over the extent to which the commercial spirit dominates American journalism. The editor unburdens himself in this wise:

"I know of only three daily papers in this country, tho there may be more, in which literary subjects are treated editorially. In England, where Latin and Greek are still quoted even in the House of Lords, and where men like Mr. Andrew Lang, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Sir Edwin Arnold, Mr. Gosse, Mr. Dobson, and Mr. H. D. Traill are still regular contributors to the daily press, scholarship has a direct commercial value. There and in France it is still possible for a man, solely by his knowledge of literature, to make a decent living in journalism. Here it is not possible, and Greek and Latin, mathematics and the sciences are of no more value to an American journalist than they are to every cultivated man, as means of strengthening his mind, broadening his sympathies, and accustoming him to the habit of strong intellectual exertion."

What is the remedy for this lamentable state of affairs? Nothing, thinks the writer quoted above, except a realization of the truth that the successful journalist is the specialist. The education of the journalist should be the education of every cultivated man, but he should be an authority on some one subject or line of subjects. The article in question closes as follows:

"Do not make the mistake of looking upon journalism as an easy profession. The only way to succeed in newspaper work, as in every other profession, is by plodding. I would advise you to choose now the subject on which you especially want to write, on which you wish to become a recognized authority. You must make yourself a master of it. You must work at it till you can write on it in all its details with absolute confidence. If possible let it be some subject in which the minutest accuracy is indispensable, that will force you to concentrate your whole mind on its study."

The Story of "Robin Adair."—The famous song, which has sung itself into so many hearts, was written from the heart and to a real Robin Adair. The little tale reads like a fairy story and ends as happily. Robin, according to S. J. Adair Fitz-Gerald (*McClure's*, February), was a native of county Wicklow, Ireland, and, getting into trouble of some kind in Dublin, while studying medicine, fled to London. On the way he rescued a fashionable lady whose coach had been overturned, and from her secured *entrée* into London society. The story proceeds as follows:

"Robin Adair was a wise and energetic young man, and took full advantage of the lucky turn in his fortunes to study assiduously; and soon, with the assistance of his patroness, acquired a good connection at the best end of the town. He was frequently at the dances given by this lady and others, and one night, at a party, he found that his partner was Lady Caroline Keppel, the second daughter of the Earl of Albemarle. It was a case of love at first sight—mutual love; and Lady Caroline's attachment was as sincere as it was sudden. Her kinsfolk were stupefied with amazement. She was sent abroad to see if travel would alter her determination and cure her of her 'folly,' but without avail; and gradually she fell ill. When she was at Bath for the benefit of her health (about 1750), she wrote the verses now so popular, and adapted them to the melody of 'Eileen Aroon,' which Robin Adair had doubtless often sung to her. At last the separation from Adair and the importunities of her relatives caused her to become so dangerously ill that, upon the doctors despairing of her life, and seeing the disease was more of the heart and mind than of the flesh, the union of the faithful pair was consented to."

NOTES.

DR. ANTONIN DVORAK has consented to return to America and take charge of the National Conservatory of Music in New York city.

PAUL LAWRENCE DUNBAR, the negro poet whom Mr. Howells lately "brought out" so handsomely, goes to England, it is said, to give parlor readings next summer.

THE Werner Company has spent several years revising the ninth edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, and has just issued volume I. of their five-volume new American supplement, together with another volume, a "Guide to Systematic Readings" in the Encyclopedia.

MR. R. P. PEATTIE gives to *The Clack Book* the following clever take-off on poster art:

"Said a Beardsley boy to a Bradley girl
Whom he met on a poster blue:
'I haven't an idea who I am,
And who the deuce are you?'
Said the Bradley girl to the Beardsley boy:
'I'll tell you what I think:
I came into being one night last week
When a cat tipped ever the ink.'"

IN the latest election in the French Academy M. Zola, the persistent candidate, received four votes, which led him to express himself as follows: "What! I have really four! I am surprised, for I never expected it, having taken no part in the poll. The election was arranged beforehand, and therefore it was useless to pay any attention to it. To tell the truth, these Academic elections have no effect on me. I confine myself to putting up for every seat vacant, and then I wait to see the result without the slightest emotion. Of course I shall continue a candidate, but I no longer pay the traditional visits. I paid them once, and that is enough. I am again a candidate for the seat of Jules Simon. As regards that of M. Challemel-Lacour, the customary period of mourning has only just expired, and I shall wait a few days more before coming forward for his seat. And I shall continue to go on in this way. Where it will lead me to, goodness only knows."

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SCIENCE.

LIQUID CRYSTALS.

THIS name would seem to be self-contradictory, for all the crystals with which we are familiar are solids, and cease to be crystalline on melting. It has recently been discovered, however, that in some interesting instances the crystalline properties of substances are retained after they have passed from the solid to the liquid form. The experiments that prove this, tho they have been carried on in Germany for the last seven years, are comparatively unknown in England and America, and English-speaking scientific men are much indebted to Prof. H. A. Miers, who has collected a large number of facts concerning these experiments in *Science Progress* (January). As a typical instance of the curious substances mentioned above, he cites a recently discovered hydrocarbon compound named azoxyphenol. Its solid crystals behave as follows:

"Warmed on a microscope slide they are suddenly transformed, at a temperature of 134°, into a substance which preserves the outline of the crystal, is strongly doubly refractive, becomes dark four times when rotated on the microscope stage between crossed Nicols, and therefore behaves in all these respects like a true crystal. As is well known to all students of the subject, crystals differ from other substances in being anisotropic [possessed of different properties in different directions] while they are homogeneous; that is to say, all the properties of a crystal, while the same along parallel lines within it, are in general different in different directions. In the matter of their optical properties this character expresses itself in the double refraction exhibited by all crystals save those which belong to the cubic system; and as a result of this birefringence, if the crystal be placed between two polarizing Nicol prisms whose principal planes are at right angles, light is in general transmitted through the combination and is only extinguished four times as the crystal is rotated through 360° on the microscope stage.

"Azoxyphenol at 134°, therefore, behaves in these respects like a crystal, but, incredible as it may seem, is nevertheless a liquid; it does not retain a geometrical form, but is free to move in all directions.

"If the preparation be still further warmed, it passed at 165° into a third modification which is also liquid, but not doubly refractive. It is possible to contrive that this molten substance shall contain small portions of the first, birefringent, liquid which float about in it as perfectly spherical drops."

We can not note here the different theories that have been advanced to account for these facts; we need only say that their discoverer, Lehmann, regards the liquid modification as truly crystalline, and he therefore would re-make all the definitions of the word "crystal" found in our text-books and dictionaries. Explaining Lehmann's views, Professor Miers says:

"Ordinary crystals are solids which can be deformed up to a certain point without any permanent change being produced in their form; they may, for instance, be bent by pressure and then return to their original form when the pressure is removed; unless the limit of elasticity has been passed, when they are permanently deformed or broken. Now Lehmann has found that in many crystals the limit of elasticity is so low that without actual disruption they may by the application of very slight force be made to flow like shellac or certain other amorphous substances. He has long expressed his opinion that the essential feature of a crystalline structure is not, as is commonly supposed, the regular arrangement of particles which are held together by elastic forces to form a more or less rigid structure. If this were the case, he argues, a sufficient deformation would destroy the structure and reduce the crystal to the amorphous condition, and this has never yet been effected.

"'He inquires, therefore, whether the limit of elasticity may not in certain crystals be not only extremely small, as in the soft substances previously described by him, but actually zero, so that the material may be liquid and yet crystalline. If a liquid exhibits polarization phenomena similar to those of a deformed crystal, is there any reason, he asks, why we should not regard it as a liquid crystal?"

In conclusion Professor Miers makes the following very sensible suggestion:

"If I may venture on a word of criticism I would urge that here we are concerned partly with a question of words. It will be wise to retain the names crystal and crystalline in their old significations, rather than to extend them so as to include the birefringent liquids whose existence has been established by Lehmann. It may be that these remarkable drops are examples of liquid matter in which particles while free to move are compelled to preserve the same orientation, and differ in this respect from ordinary liquids. But whether this peculiarity of structure, whatever may be its nature, is really analogous to that of solid crystals is a question in which it will be better not to commit ourselves to an answer by applying the same name to both until more is known about the structure both of liquids and solids."

ELECTRICITY AS A SAFE-BREAKER.

NOT less interesting than the never-ending rivalry between armor and projectiles is the equally perennial strife between the safe-maker and the safe-breaker, altho in this last case the interest of the law-abiding portion of the community is somewhat one-sided. We are warned, however, by *Electrical Engineering* that the burglar has in the high-power electrical current, whose capabilities have been so forcibly shown in Moissan's furnace, an ally whose efficacy can scarcely be overestimated. Says the paper alluded to:

"We published a short note about three years ago in which attention was called to the possibility of using an electric current for the purpose of opening so-called burglar-proof safes. At that time there was apparently but one safe on the market which had successfully resisted the efforts of competent explosive experts. All circumstances seemed to point to this as the one protection calculated to baffle the efforts of the modern burglar possessing a scientific knowledge of high explosives, and all seemed willing to admit that in explosives were to be found the most powerful aid to the burglar's art. The construction of heavy vaults of masonry, usually lined with steel, simply aided the scientific burglar; for, sheltered by this convenient sound-deadening structure, it was an easy matter to use explosives in quantities which would have been impossible under any other conditions without causing a disturbance and wreckage, sure to result in detection or capture. To place a heavy explosive-resisting safe in a lightly constructed vault or in the open seemed then to be the highest stage of burglar-resisting art. Efforts were also made to construct double-cased safes which would possess such acoustic properties as to make the firing in an open room of even an ordinary charge of explosives a dangerous proceeding. Between these two arts of protection lay the greatest safety at a banker's or jeweler's command.

"In investigating the possibilities of using electricity upon an explosive-resisting safe, it appeared, in our opinion—and we were supported by two or three of the most competent engineers in the West—that it was not at all a question of possibility, that admitted of no doubt—only one of probability and practicability. This did not meet the full acceptance of safe experts at the time, notwithstanding the frankly voiced opinions of the electrical experts. Our published opinion was allowed to remain neglected, occasionally brought to mind by suggestions made from time to time that burglars would soon use the enormous heat of an electric arc for drawing the temper or penetrating the sheets of steel of vaults and safes.

"The opinion expressed has now received verification, for in recent experiments we witnessed an arc of 40 to 50 volts, with a current of 300 to 500 amperes, penetrate in three to ten minutes safe walls three to six inches thick, and as a demonstration of the masses of metal which could be operated upon, a rough steel ingot, perhaps six by seven by ten inches, was penetrated with a diagonal jagged hole from one and one half to three and one half inches in diameter, the thickness of metal pierced being about eight or nine inches.

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"What construction can resist this concentration of heat? The hardest steel is penetrated as easily, even more easily than the softest iron, while the cast metal used in the heretofore invulnerable safe melts and runs like water, making, from its very nature an easier safe to open than those built of the rolled metal, which, as is well known, remains plastic under a high degree of heat, and has not the tendency to flow from the arc and leave an entirely unobstructed passage. In penetrating the wrought-iron or mild steel it was frequently necessary to allow the arc to play on the semi-plastic mass being melted, to keep it from congealing and preventing further progress. This took somewhat longer time. The cast safes, owing to the fact that the metal was necessarily designed to flow, in order that the safe could be cast from the pattern, did not resist the arc nearly as long for a given penetration. The metal readily flowed, and a hole large enough to permit the safe to be opened was quickly made; this without undue noise or aught to give warning.

"The method adopted to guard against this new agency of attack also possesses an interest to the electrical fraternity, inasmuch as an electrical alarm has been selected as the most effective means of protection from electrical attack. *Similia similibus curantur.*"

HAVE FISH A MEMORY?

THIS question is being studied by Prof. Ludwig Edinger, of Frankfort-on-the-Main, who has sent to scientific journals a request couched in the following language:

"Have fish a memory? A request for information. There is a general opinion that fish have some sort of memory, that they can recognize people, know how to find or to avoid places where they have made formerly some experiences, that fish which have once escaped the rod know the bait, etc. It is highly desirable that all experience of this kind should be collected in the interest of comparative psychology. The reason is that till now we believed the function of memory to depend on the action of the brain cortex. All experience in man and in the higher animals has led to that conclusion. During the last years it has been proved that fish have no brain cortex at all. They are the only existing vertebrates without a brain cortex. Now if we could prove beyond the possibility of doubt that fish really have a memory, that they gain experience and can make use of it, then we shall have to give up the till now general opinion that memory has its seat in the brain cortex. Therefore it is extremely important to have an entirely new set of experiences."

Professor Edinger is anxious to hear what anglers and naturalists may have to say on the subject, and requests all who have anything to say about it to communicate with him at 20 Gartnerweg, Frankfurt-am-Main, remembering that the most trivial circumstance may be of value in his investigation. The following comment is made on the Professor's request by *The Lancet* (London, January 23):

"Here is a splendid chance for anglers to tell their pet tales and to throw light on this interesting question. Many incidents which commonly occur to anglers would decidedly go against the theory that fish have memories. Thus, a fish which has had a fly broken in his mouth will often immediately take another, and on being captured the broken one may be found still sticking in his mouth, and then it is well known to fishermen that a pike which escapes while it is being played will often again ferociously seize the bait if it be at once temptingly offered him. Such well-known facts as these do not at first sight point to any highly developed powers of reasoning in the fish, but before drawing any conclusions from them, another factor—that of sensibility—must also be taken into consideration. It is highly probable that a fish hooked with a small fly-hook in a gristly part of the jaw feels little or no pain, and therefore if the hook immediately breaks, the fish possibly looks upon it as a very slight inconvenience which in no wise need hinder him from continuing his meal. A fish's brain is a very small mass compared with the weight of the body, and is also small in comparison to the spinal cord. We have no doubt that Professor Edinger will receive many interesting communications from people who are in the habit of studying the habits of fish carefully, and it is to be hoped that some reliable conclusions will be drawn from them."

THE EFFORT OF A LEAP.

ONE would conclude, to look at the face of the accompanying figure, that it was the picture of an old man. We are assured, however, by Dr. A. Fournier (*La Nature*, December 26) that it is that of a fifteen-year-old boy, and that the same expression is assumed by every one who makes the effort that is necessary in a leap. Says Dr. Fournier:

CONTRACTION OF THE FACE DURING A LEAP.

"The effort provokes a contraction of the whole frame; the trunk and the limbs, at the moment of the leap, form a rigid and curved body.

"The photograph represents a very high leap at the moment when the impulse is given; it shows the body in full effort and in entire contraction. We may imagine the violence of the effort by observing the countenance of the young lad (fifteen years); the nose, the lips, the eyebrows, the pupils, the forehead, the neck, all are violently contracted. The effect is the more accentuated in that the energy of the effort has congested the face.

"One would say, to see this figure, that the leaper had suddenly felt great pain and that he was about to burst into tears.

"This photograph . . . is interesting, as giving the contracted appearance of a leaper at the precise moment of the effort of his leap.

"It is certain that in this manner a series of effects that would be at once surprising and instructive might be obtained with the aid of photography."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE ALLEGED NEW ELEMENT.

THE reported discovery of a new chemical element, to which the discoverer had given the name of "lucium," has already been briefly mentioned in these columns. The news that the element had been patented by the discoverer and that its salts were to be used for a purpose whose commercial value depended entirely on the fact that the substance was a new element, was not calculated to inspire confidence in the discovery. The elementary character of the substance has not been confirmed. On the contrary, Crookes, the English chemist, believes it to be a compound of yttrium, a previously known element. We quote from *The National Druggist* (February):

"[Mr. Crookes] having obtained solution of 'lucium nitrate' besides a quantity of precipitated lucium oxalate from the patentee, subjected them to a preliminary examination with a hand spectroscope, with the result that the presence, in small quantities, of both didymium and erbium was indicated. Moreover, both the oxalate and the solution, on ignition, yielded a cream-colored earth.

"The phosphorescent spectrum of yttrium was also exhibited, when tests for radiant matter of this and the original earth were instituted; in addition, photographs of 'lucium's' ultra-violet spectrum showed a close resemblance to that of the former element; six lines only were not accounted for.

"Four of these, which were very faint, were due to platinum or air, the fifth to a trace of zirconium, and the sixth was coincident to a strong line in the ytterbium spectrum.

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"These two spectrum analyses having afforded strong indication that 'lucium' was merely yttrium in combination with other substances, Mr. Crookes resorted to chemical examination, and was confirmed in this view.

"The discrepancy between the atomic weight of yttrium, 89, and that of the alleged element lucium, 104, is accounted for by the presence of erbium and didymium."

MANUFACTURE OF GOLD IN INDIA.

THE transmutation of metals, long sought by medieval alchemists, and now asserted, in these later days, to have been accomplished by an American chemist, is a matter of daily practise among the fakirs of India, if we may trust their own claims; and, indeed, M. Hector Léveillé assures us in *Cosmos* (October 24) that he has witnessed the process with his own eyes; that is, he has seen the fakirs make an alloy that looks like gold and answers some of the simpler tests, altho, he prudently remarks, it has not the same chemical qualities. He gives us some of the receipts used, and by following them any of the amateur chemists among our readers may verify his words with reasonable ease, for it is to be presumed that the herbs and vegetable juices enumerated are not necessary ingredients, and the lack of them need not deter the American experimenter. Says M. Léveillé:

"For a long time, in India, the apparent transmutation of tin, zinc, copper, and mercury into precious metals has been practised. We have seen there with our own eyes a metal like gold issuing from the crucible of the Indian alchemists—a metal that could not be told from real gold by means of the touchstone. We may say, however, that in old India, as well as in young America, they have not yet succeeded in giving to the metal thus obtained the chemical properties of gold. On this point they are not more advanced in the one country than in the other, and the problem seems to us not to be near solution. The metal obtained can, in fact, be decomposed into its constituent elements. Nevertheless it may be interesting to present to public notice the Indian alchemists and to describe their methods."

These alchemists, M. Léveillé goes on to tell us, are always either fakirs or sannyassis (penitents). The latter are remarkable people, accustomed from youth to eat poisons, drink mercury, and resist heat and cold. They live in the mountains and the woods, and are regarded as sacred. Says the writer:

"Around these personages many legends have sprung up. The people assert that they never come into a city except by divine inspiration, in order to cure illness and to enrich certain persons. There is a belief among the Hindus, very widespread, but purely fabulous, that they disappear at certain hours to rejoin the *cittars*, divine naturalists of the early ages of India, who, according to Hindu tradition, meet with their divinity, Hari Ishari, on the summits of the Himalayas, to learn the secrets of nature.

"The following is the method employed by these Indian alchemists to make their gold. We give literally, conforming to the weights and measures in use in India, the list of substances necessary for this delicate operation.

"These are, according to our documents:

"Sulfur of Nelli-Kaï (*Phylanthus lemblica*), 24 rupees' weight [7 ounces].
"White seeds of *Abra precatorius*, 9 rupees' weight [2½ ounces].
"One whole garlic.
"Cinnabar, 6 rupees' weight [2 ounces].
"English orpiment, 6 rupees' weight.
"Sal ammoniac, 6 rupees' weight.

"These are powdered separately, and then a paste is made of the whole, with three quarts of 'paddy' made of the milky juice of *Asclepias gigantea*. The whole is ground up with this milk.

"Then little hard balls are made of the mixture, and finally two *sattis* are taken, of fine, hard earthenware, of such size that the material to be distilled occupies only one third or one fourth of the vessel. On the lower vessel another *satti* is soldered with potter's earth, after an opening has been made in the end of this second vase.

"Over this hole is fitted a bottle whose end is pierced, and it is carefully sealed to the vase.

"Into the lower vase are put the little balls described above, and the whole is then sealed up.

"The powder, when vaporized, rises along the sides of the bottle and condenses around the hole. It is collected with a feather. Then zinc is taken; for each rupee's weight of zinc is allowed a quantity of the powder as large as two or three rice grains. The zinc and the powder are wrapped up together in a bit of paper or linen or a leaf. The whole is put into a crucible, which is then sealed with a paste composed of one part of cow-dung, one of charcoal, and one of potter's earth. This is placed on a fire of wood-charcoal and heated white hot, after which it is allowed to cool.

"Open the crucible—you are a rich man!"

A similar formula, we are told, suffices for the manufacture of silver. The Hindu alchemists, it will be seen, do not preserve the same secrecy as those in more civilized lands, and freely give us all the opportunity of becoming wealthy.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CAN WE GET RID OF FOG?

PROF. ALEXANDER McADIE gives strong reasons in *The North American Review* for a belief that this question may be answered in the affirmative. After reminding us that the persistent fogs that occur in cities are apt to be due to the presence of dust or smoke particles, which serve as nuclei of condensation for the water-drops, he quotes the following methods proposed by Prof. Oliver Lodge, of Liverpool, for removing dust from air:

"1. Filtration through cotton wool and glycerin.
"2. Allowing the air to settle.
"3. Condensing the vapor in the air several times.
"4. By keeping a hot body in the air for some time. This is what Tyndall calls 'calcining' the air.
"5. Discharging electricity into the air from a point."

He remarks regarding these propositions:

"The last-named process is the one most effective and in our judgment one containing great possibilities when applied to fog dissipation. If we discharge electricity into dusty air we can remove the dust from the air, and removing the dust means control of fog. The writer has shown in public how wonderfully rapid and effective electrical discharges of very high potential are in scattering smoke and clarifying dust-laden atmospheres. Much might be said of certain experiments, but for the present we will use Lodge's words to describe some of the curious effects of a brush discharge in dusty air, inasmuch as the experiments were original with him.

"'A bell-jar of illuminated magnesium smoke was connected with one pole of a Vose machine. A potential able to give quarter-inch or even tenth-inch spark is ample and better than a higher one. The smoke particles very quickly aggregate into long filaments, which point along the lines of force, and which drop by their own weight when the electrification is removed. A higher potential tears them asunder and drives them against the sides of the jar. A knob polarizes the particles as well as a point, but does not clear the air of them so soon. If the bell-jar be filled with steam, electrification rapidly aggregates the particles or globules into Scotch mist and fine rain.'

"Dr. Lodge goes on to show how a small cellar may be cleared of thick turpentine smoke by a point discharge. There can be no doubt that air is speedily cleansed of its solid particles by a continued electrical discharge. Many practical applications of the principle suggests themselves, such as purifying the air of smoking-rooms, theater galleries, and disinfecting the air of hospital wards. In fog dissipation the problem is simply an increase in the size of the dust nuclei of condensation, under gentle electrification until these settle, or, under powerful electrification, to cause a rapid scattering and deposition of the electrified drops."

At the time of Dr. Lodge's Montreal lecture, in which he made the propositions quoted above, that is, about ten years ago, they were regarded as scarcely practical, but Professor McAdie now

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points out that conditions have greatly altered since that time, and in a direction that promises well for the success of a trial of the method on a large scale. He says:

"Less than ten years have passed since the suggestion was thus casually made of the possibility of fog dissipation, and in that time great changes have been made in electrical apparatus. All ships and steamboats of any size are now provided with dynamos, and the generation of a high potential current is a very easy matter. The insulation properties of various materials, such as mica and quartz, which were not in use ten years ago, make them available for use with high potentials. It is a comparatively easy and inexpensive matter by means of proper transformers in series to run up to a potential of forty or fifty thousand volts. Then with a suitable arrangement of terminals a network of fiery discharges might be made to stream out into the fog either from the mastheads or from suitable poles, and the electrification of the air be thus widely effected. Within a reasonable distance such discharges would certainly dissipate the fog and clarify the air."

In view of these facts, asks Professor McAdie, are we not criminally negligent in failing to give Lodge's method a trial, and so endeavoring to abate the fog nuisance—one of the most serious of our climate in its effects on commerce and on the comforts of daily life?

HOW TO AVOID MEDICAL MISTAKES.

IN a leading editorial on "The Doctor's Mistakes," *The Medical Record*, January 2, counsels the physician to avoid them in somewhat the same way that the ancient oracles used to avoid being wrong—namely, by extreme caution in prediction. While no one can blame a medical mentor for deprecating rash prophecy, still there are some expressions in this particular article that a harsh critic might interpret as advice to the ignorant practitioner to take refuge in ambiguous and misleading phrases. Says *The Record:*

"In all our relations with our patients, it is the safer and better rule to be more than cautious in our temptations to think aloud in their presence. A discreet general guards his line of possible retreat with as much care as that of attack, concluding that while it is quite bad enough to be defeated, it is still worse to be hopelessly bagged by the enemy. The older practitioner need not be told that the practise of his art is constantly beset by startling surprises. Patients not only get well who should die, but many die without ostensible scientific reasons. To reconcile these constantly recurring experiences makes him an ever-ready trimmer to circumstances and an adept diplomatist with shifting fortune. While apparently knowing everything, he finds it eminently fitting his actual position to know little and say less. The loophole of expediency is as essential to him as are his advice and prescription to his patient. He learns to be astonished at nothing and always on the lookout for the unexpected. A sudden death is always explained with greater plausibility by the man who never declares his positive prognosis than by the one who has previously committed himself to its impossibility. So also with a doubtful diagnosis. It is always wiser to wait and see the eruption than on general reasoning to promise its appearance, to be sure that pus is present before risking a dry tap. The qualifying 'if' comes in everywhere and every time. If the patient does not die, he may live; if pus is not present, the signs are simply misleading; if the case is not one of measles, the clinical history is wrong and the patient has not been exposed; if it is not diphtheria, the bacteriological examination is at fault; if the wound does not heal, the sutures were not thoroughly aseptic. When nothing is promised, nothing is expected. We must balance one condition by the other, and the more evenly we do this the less often will the physician be charged with what he can not reasonably help. A guarded mouth never needs to explain why the foot dropped in."

"Every Man His Own Physician."—A recent humorous paragraph represents a physician as making great haste to the house of a patient, whither he has just been summoned because of an accident. "I know there is a book in the house on 'First Aid to the Injured,'" he explains, "and I want to get there before they can use it." The same distrust of the medical and surgical powers of the ordinary layman, without medical training, is expressed in more serious terms by *Merck's Report* (New York, January 15), which, in a leading editorial, gives some striking instances of the inability of some people to deal with drugs. One of the pharmacist's most serious duties, it declares, is to guard the public against the consequences of its own ignorance in this respect. It says:

"Experience has shown that it is never safe to sell a potent remedy to any person until some evidence has been given going to show that he knows what the article is he is calling for and how to use it. Men who in the ordinary walks of life seem quite intelligent will order from the druggist, on the recommendation of newspapers, personal friends, or even casual acquaintances, dangerous remedies, and either guess at the dose or accept the statements of the parties who have advised them.

"It is no uncommon thing for one friend to tell another to use carbolic acid on an ulcer or sore, and for the advised party to come to the druggist for ten cents' worth of pure carbolic acid, emphasizing the word 'pure.' On inquiry it is discovered that he intends using the pure carbolic acid as a direct application, wholly unaware of its powerful caustic character. Learning that arsenic improved the complexion, a young woman in Brooklyn not long ago got some of it and took a dose that proved fatal. It is an almost every-day occurrence for people to ask the druggist for five or ten cents' worth of 'potash.' So common, indeed has it become that druggists generally assume that chlorate of potassium is the article wanted. Sometimes this assumption proves an error, and those wanting to soften hard water, clean out a sewer-pipe, or make soap, blame the druggist if he, without asking what they intend to use it for, gives them the chlorate. Many of the blunders that the public are kept from making by the vigilant care of pharmacists would be amusing if they did not border so closely on the tragic as to be alarming."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"A MANCHESTER photographer," says *The American Journal of Photography*, "relates that he recently took a photograph of a child who was apparently in good health and had a clear skin. The negative showed the face to be thickly covered with an eruption. Three days afterward the child was covered with spots due to prickly heat. The camera had seen and photographed the eruption three days before it was visible to the naked eye. It is said that another case of a similar kind is recorded, where a child showed spots on his portrait which were invisible on his face a fortnight previous to an attack of smallpox.

"CONSUL MATTHEWS," says *The Electrical Age*, "writes to the Department of State from Para that the Brazilian Government is having a hard time in trying to operate the new cable to Manaos. The cable, costing about $1,000,000, was guaranteed by the company for thirty days. On the thirty-first day it failed, and no message has been sent over it since last February. It is hoped to have it in working order by the end of the year. Engineers now assert that a cable up the Amazon can not be made a success on account of the current and many obstructions in the river bed. The cable is of Siemens make, and one of the best ever laid, but the conditions are said to be worse than those encountered even by cables in the busy Hudson River."

"PROFESSOR SCHMIEDEBERG of Strasburg lately made a very interesting experiment," says *The National Druggist*, "which not only conclusively demonstrates the existence of an iron-hunger in animals, but also indicates disastrous results in the event of the craving remaining unsatisfied. A strong, frolicsome dog, that had suffered the loss of a small quantity of blood only, was fed for a period on pure milk, and little by little became so weak that all evidence of spirit vanished, and, refusing further nourishment, became so thin and weak that his limbs refused to support his body. Just as he seemed on the point of death, a gram of ferratin was added to his daily allowance of milk; when, instead of refusing as heretofore, he devoured it ravenously, and in the space of two weeks recovered his normal health and strength."

MUCH has appeared in some of the daily papers about a rotary steam-engine invented by Grant Brambel, of Sleepy Eye, Minn. It has been asserted that it is to revolutionize manufacturing, and that it has been bought by a British syndicate for a fabulous sum. *The Railway Review*, summarizing an authoritative opinion from *The American Machinist*, says of this engine that, according to the specifications of the patent, it is "far from the best and not far from the worst of existing rotary engines. It is demonstrable from the patent drawing that the steam will not turn the engine over except when started from one or two special points of the revolution, and if it could not be got to run, it would do little more than that; and whatever the volume or pressure of steam used, little power could be developed."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

CONSERVATIVE REACTION IN THE CHURCH OF GERMANY.

THE signs of a reaction against radicalism in the German church have been detected by close observers in recent times and noted in these columns. The extent of this new movement is described in the *Evangelische Lutherische Kirchenzeitung* of Leipsic, the ablest representative of the conservative and confessional standpoint among the church papers of Germany. In No 2 this influential journal contains a significant article entitled "*Vexilla regis prodeunt!*" (The standards of the King are advancing!), of which we here reproduce the substance:

At the opening of the present year we have reasons to look hopefully into the future. In more than one place we see the beginnings of new and better times. The liberal theologians no longer present a solid, closed phalanx, as was formerly the case. The "*Protestantenverein*," once such a powerful organization of liberal theologians and churches, has been hurled to the ground, and its phalanx has become an object of ridicule. In reality even "Ritschlianism," the newer school of neological theology, exists only in name as yet. The masses that formerly crowded around the great teacher Ritschl, and swore by his words, no longer exist. Some have turned to the right and have become more positive and evangelical in their teachings, and in fact are beginning to be ashamed of being called pupils of Ritschl; while others have gone to the left and already consider "the last of the church fathers," as Harnack calls Ritschl, as too old-fogyish and are searching for a more thorough radicalism. Even their influential organ, the *Christliche Welt*, is no longer the power that it was. The recent convention of its friends at Erfurt showed that there exists a deep chasm between the representatives of various types and kinds of liberal theology, and that these people are united only in their opposition to conservative teachings. How a rupture can be avoided in the ranks of the liberal hosts who differ so decidedly in principle is hard to see. Nor is the new "National Social" party attracting any great number of adherents. Its two journals, the *Hiele* and the *Zeit*, are both financially embarrassed. In other words, the liberal and liberalizing forces within the German church have in recent months lost considerable ground, and the beginning of the end seems to be at hand. On the other hand, the defense of the old faith has grown internally and externally. Altho among the University men there have been very few who have undertaken to defend the olden views of the church with reference to the divine character of the Scriptures, the rank and file of the pastors have boldly come to the front in this good work, and the anti-critical biblical literature is now greater than it has been for many years. To counteract the influence of neological teachings by the University professors of theology, courses of lectures and special schools in the interests of the old truth have been successfully carried on in a number of places, and will as long as needs demand be continued. One thing at least has been achieved in this way, namely, to rob the so-called infallible "scientific" theology of its halo, and to show that a theology can be "scientific" and at the same time evangelical. Then in another direction, too, positive thought has made itself felt to a noteworthy degree. In nearly all the provincial synods of Prussia the so-called "Professor question," *i.e.*, the teachings of the University professors contrary to the confessions of the church, was up for discussion, and in each case the representatives of the church decided more or less sharply against the liberalizing tendencies current at the universities. The Bavarian consistory went so far as to declare that this was not a struggle between two schools of theology, both of which were equally entitled to recognition, but between faith and unfaith.

It was high time that something should be done. Christ was being again crucified by those who should be His defenders. But recent events have shown that in Germany the Protestant church is at heart thoroughly evangelical and loves its Bible above everything else. Indeed, all signs indicate that the church is preparing for a new triumphal march. *Vexilla regis prodeunt!*

These statements receive a singular corroboration from an unexpected source, namely, the *Chronik* of Leipsic, itself an exponent of liberal theology. In No. 2 it furnishes statistics of the theological faculties at the nine Prussian universities, from which it appears that the conservatives are much stronger numerically than the liberals. In the old Prussian provinces there are 16 liberal and 26 conservative theologians in the University faculty, and in the newer provinces 8 liberals and 9 conservatives. In the last two years fully twice as many conservatives as liberals were appointed, showing where the sympathies of the Government are.

THE BABYLONIAN STORY OF THE FLOOD.

PROF. PAUL HAUPT, of Johns Hopkins University, has been for some time engaged in translating the tablets found many years ago amid the ruins of Nineveh, which tell about the Flood. The New York *Journal* (February 7) gives the result of his efforts, and accompanies this with a brief but inaccurate story of the discovery of the tablets. Inquiry made by us of Professor Haupt brings the information that the translation as published is correct, and the following facts concerning the inscriptions are given us by Rev. Dr. William Hayes Ward. The first portion of the narrative was discovered twenty-five years ago by George Smith, of the British Museum, among the fragments of tablets of Assurbanipal, King of Nineveh, which had been brought to the Museum from the ruins of the king's palace. When the inscriptions were translated they created great excitement, and Mr. Smith was despatched to Koyuñdjik (Nineveh) by the London *Telegraph* to recover other fragments, in which attempt he was successful. This was twenty years ago. The inscriptions have been published often, but never before with such completeness of collaboration as in the present form by Professor Haupt. These tablets are copies made for King Assurbanipal six hundred years before Christ, but it is generally believed by scholars, from internal evidence, that the story goes back beyond the time of Moses and probably much beyond it.

Here is the translation made by Professor Haupt:

1. Gilgames spoke to him, to Par-Napistim, the translated.
2. I see thee (with wonder), O Par-Napistim.
3. Thine appearance is unchanged, like me art thou;
4. Yes, thou art indeed unchanged, like me art thou.
5. Altho thou art cut off from life while I must (still) fight the battle
6. Against that which no longer rests upon thy shoulders.
7. Tell me, how camest thou (here), in the council of the gods to find (everlasting) life.
8. Then said Par-Napistim to Gilgames,
9. To thee, Gilgames, shall I disclose the secret.
10. Of my translation to the gods, also shall I tell thee.
11. Thou knowest the city Suripak,
12. Which lieth on the banks of the Euphrates.
13. This city was old (sinful). Hence, to the gods,
14. Came the thought to bring a flood, the great gods
15. Were assembled: their father, the god Anu,
16. Their adviser, the grim god Bel.
17. Their Destroying-Angel, the god Adav;
18. Their leader, the god Ennugi.
19. The Lord of inscrutable wisdom sat by them but (on the watch)
20. And he made known the plan to the reed-huts.
21. Reed-huts! Reed-huts! Stone-houses, stone-houses!
22. Reed-huts, hear! Stone-houses, hearken!
23. Suripakit, son of Ubaratutu!
24. Make a house, build a ship!
25. Leave your possessions, try (to save) your life.
26. Leave your belongings, save your life!
27. Take up into the ship seed of life of every kind.
28. The ship which you are to build,
29. Let its lines be long,
30. And its breadth and depth equal.
31. On the sea let it float.
32. When I heard this I said to the god Ea: My Lord!
33. Thy command, O Lord, which thou hast just given

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34. Shall I obey and follow,
35. [But] what shall I say to the city, to the people and the chiefs.
36. The god Ea opened his mouth and said—
37. Spoke to me, his servant:
38. Thus shalt thou speak to them:
39. Bel has banished me and hates me,
40. Therefore I can not stay in your city
41. On Bel's earth can I not remain.
42. To the sea shall I go, to remain with my Lord Ea.
43. Upon you however a flood will pour down;
44. Man, birds, beast will die; the fish
45. . . . . common.
46. When the sun brings about the time, then will the ruler of the hurricane
47. Rain destruction down upon you at evening.
48. When [the first appearance of sunrise] is seen—
49. . . 50. . . 51. . . 52. . . 53.
54. . . . . fruits of the earth
55. . . . . walls
56. Powerful (?) . . The needed plane at hand.
57. On the 5th day I began to join the hulk together.
58. Its sides were 120 cubits high on the outside.
59. And likewise 120 cubits was the breadth of its decks.
60. I joined its bow and fastened it tight (the whole ship).
61. Then I built 6 decks in it.
62. Thus I divided it into 7 stories.
63. The interior (of each of the 7 stories) I divided into 9 apartments.
64. Water-pegs (in all the joints) did I drive in all over,
65. I sought out a mast and provided the needed fittings
66. 6 sar of pitch I used to caulk it.
67. 3 sar of naphtha (I took) on board.
68. While the people, who bore the ship's sussul, brought 3 sar of oil.
69. I kept one sar of oil which was needed for the offering.
70. 2 sars of oil did the pilot set aside.
71. For . . . I slaughtered oxen.
72. I killed . . . . daily.
73. Jars with sesame, oil, and wine.
74. Large casks . . . like the water of a river.
75. A feast . . . as on New Year's day.
76. . . . consecrated oil my hand laid.
77. . . . the ship was completed.
78. The . . . of the ship was brought up and in,
79. The weather sides of the ship sank ⅔ in the water.
80. With all that I possessed I loaded it,
81. With all the silver that I had I loaded it,
82. With all the gold that I had I loaded it.
83. Also every living thing of every kind, that I had,
84. I took on board my whole family and my servants,
85. Cattle of the meadows, beasts of the field and artisans, all these I took aboard.
86. When the sun brings the appointed time,
87. That the ruler of the whirlwind should send the destructive rain,
88. Then go aboard and close the door after you.
89. When this time came,
90. That the ruler of the whirlwind should send a heavy rain at evening,
91. Then I looked upon the earth,
92. But I was afraid to look at the earth.
93. I went aboard the ship and closed the door after me,
94. To the captain of the ship, Puzur-Sadurabu, the pilot,
95. I turned over the great house with all its cargo.
96. When the first rays of sunrise appeared,
97. The dark clouds rose on the horizon.
98. In which Ramman lets his thunder crash,
99. While Nebo and the "King" go before.
100. And the Destroying-Angel strode over mountain and valley.
101. Uragal let loose the elements,
102. Adar passed scattering wo.
103. The Annunnak bear torches,
104. By whose sheen they light the earth.
105. Altho Ramman's whirling dust-cloud rises to heaven
106. And all light is changed to darkness.
107. . . . of the land [crash] like an earthen vessel.
108. The first day of the storm . . .
109. Raging stormed . . the . . hand
110. As in battle they descend upon man . .
111. Brother regards not brother,
112. Men trouble not about one another; (even) in heaven
113. The gods fear the flood,
114. They escape to the (highest) heaven of Anu.
115. The gods crouch like dogs, cower behind heaven's lattices.
116. Istar cries like a woman in travail.
117. The sublime goddess cries with a loud voice.
118. Thus is then the old world (again) made mire,
119. Because I, in the council of the gods, have sworn evil to it,
120. Because I, in the council of the gods, have sworn evil to it.
121. The exterminating war against mankind have I sworn.
122. But I will reestablish my mankind.
123. Even if now they fill the sea like chaff,
124. Then the gods wept with her on account of the Spirits of the Deep,
125. The gods were prostrated, sat there wailing with wo.
126. Their lips were pressed tight together, all were paralyzed.
127. Six days and nights
128. Wind, wave, and storm raged over the earth.
129. At the coming of the seventh day, however, the storm was laid (and) the flood, which at battle
130. Had waged like a war-lord,
131. The sea became still, hurricane and flood ceased
133. As I looked at the world, I wept aloud,
134. For all men were again become mire,
135. The damned-up fields and marshes were become as one.
136. I opened a window, and, as the light of day fell on my face,
137. My knees bent under me, I had to sit down and weep.
138. Over my face flowed the tears.
139. I looked in every direction, except at the sea;
140. But after twice twelve hours, an island arose,
141. The ship was held by Mount Nizir.
142. The mount, Mount Nizir, held the ship fast, and let it not move.
143. The first and the second day Mount Nizir held, etc.
144. Also the third and fourth day Mount Nizir held, etc.
145. Likewise the fifth and sixth day, Mount Nizir held, etc.
146. When the seventh day broke,
147. I took a dove out and let it loose.
148. The dove flew hither and thither,
149. But as no resting-place was there, it returned.
150. Then I took a swallow, and let it loose.
151. The swallow flew hither and thither,
152. But as there was no resting-place, it returned.
153. Then I took a raven, and let it loose.
154. The raven flew away and saw the decrease of the waters.
155. Ate, while he croaked, wading in the mire, but returned no more.
156. Then I loosed all to the four winds. There I brought an offering.
157. I prepared an oblation on the summit of the mountain.
158. Full seven jars for libation I ranged in order;
159. In their bowls I placed calamus, cedarwood, and incense.
160. The gods smelled the savor,
161. The gods smelled the sweet savor.
162. The gods gathered like flies about the offering.
163. When then the sublime goddess came down
164. She seized the precious jewel which Anu had made according to her desire.
165. Ye gods here, by the beauty of my neck, never will I forget!
166. Of this day shall I be mindful, never shall I forget it.
167. The gods may come to the oblation.
168. But Bel must not come to the oblation.
169. Because he rashly caused the flood,
170. And delivered up my human beings to annihilation.
171. When the God Bel came thither,
172. And saw the ship, then Bel grew furious,
173. Full of anger was he against the gods and the Igigh
174. By whom the living beings had escaped,
175. No man shall remain alive at the destruction!
176. Then the God Adar opened his mouth and spoke.
177. Spoke to grim Bel.
178. No one save Ea could do such a thing,

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179. Ea knows all the arts.
180. Then Ea opened his mouth and said.
181. He spoke to grim Bel:
182. Thou art the grim leader of the gods.
183. How could'st thou be so rash as to cause a flood?
184. Let the sinner bear (the consequences) of his own sins,
185. The evil-doer bear (the consequences) of his misdeeds,
186. But have some foresight, that not (all) be destroyed, be gracious that not (all) be annihilated.

MISSIONARY INFLUENCE IN HAWAII.

THE Hawaiian Islands have more than once been used as an illustration of the fact that Protestant missionaries are as well able to organize a government as the priests of Rome. The work of the American missionary who devoted his life to the well-being of the Sandwich Islanders compares well with that of the Jesuit missions in Paraguay. Some visitors of Honolulu are nevertheless inclined to think that the Hawaiian hierarchy follows in the footsteps of its South American prototype in drawing the reins too tight. The correspondent of *The Free Press*, Singapore, writes on this subject to his paper as follows:

"Sneers at missionary enterprise are frequent and they are cheap. They usually fail in their intentions, owing to their being shot out either in malice or in ignorance, and in the case of the Sandwich Islands there is no doubt whatever that Hawaii owes her present position in the world, her civilization, and her prosperity to the labors of the early missionaries. Nobody denies this, not even those in the islands who are the most bitter and hostile critics of the present missionary policy there. When one remembers that fifty years ago the islands were inhabited by wild and naked savages, slaves to a most degrading superstition and to most revolting habits, and when one looks at them now, clothed and in their right mind, taking their place among progressive nations, one is moved to congratulate the missionaries on their undeniable success.

"The danger, however, is now that they make too much of their success, and endeavor to drive where they should lead. That is the complaint of the lay element in Honolulu against the present missionaries, who still have predominating influence in the affairs of the Republic. They are drawing the strings too tight, they are emulating the puritanical tyranny of the Commonwealth in England and of Calvin in Geneva. The result is bound to be disastrous, and disastrous most of all to the cause they are anxious to serve. As an illustration, let me repeat part of a conversation with a Honolulu citizen. He asked me for information on some local point. I confessed myself a stranger. 'And how do you like being in heaven?' he asked. 'We call this place heaven, because it's chockful of missionaries—yes, sir, it's a happy place. The man with the longest face gets on best. It's church in the morning, church at noon, and church at night,' he continued. 'Always church, and no amusements. Only church and the saloon. But if you go to the saloon, they won't have you in the church, and if you go to the church, they won't have you—well, I guess they'll take you in the saloon, wherever you come from. The saloon is freer than the church in this place, for all we have so much of it. The holy terror prevails in this land.'

"Hearing so much about the missionaries, I went to service on Sunday. The preacher gave his hearers a bright, if somewhat old-fashioned, sermon. But his prayers struck me as closely resembling the language of an office-seeker addressing a president with prize positions in his gift."

ARE UNITARIANS CHRISTIANS?

IT is the opinion of *The Living Church*, expressed in a recent editorial, that the Unitarian Church is not properly speaking a Christian body and ought not to be called such. It is more correct to speak of the Unitarians of the present day as theists or deists. To do otherwise, it says, is to cast a broad mantle of charity over a religious body "which repudiates the fundamentals of New-Testament teaching." *The Christian Register*, the Unitarian paper of Boston, quotes these utterances from its Episcopalian contemporary, and proceeds to argue that the Unitarian Church ought not to be read out of the Christian denomination. Among other things it says:

"If Christianity is to be defined on the basis of dogma, then the right of Unitarians to the Christian name will depend upon what dogmas we regard as essential to Christianity. This view has changed from age to age. If the question is to be decided by the doctrines held by Jesus Himself, as reported in the gospels, then no Christians would have a better right to call themselves Christians than those who 'accept the religion of Jesus, holding, in accordance with His teaching, that practical religion is summed up in love to God and love to man—the declaration of the last National Unitarian Conference of 1894. If the matter is to be decided by the doctrines of the Apostolic church and the church fathers when Trinitarianism began to be developed and the deification of Jesus took place, Unitarians would have little right to the name Christian except as it stood for an earlier purity of faith, which later controversy displaced.

"If we come down to the Calvinism of the Reformation, to the Westminster Confession, or to the Thirty-nine Articles of the English Church, and use them as the test of Christianity, it is manifest that Unitarians would have very little chance, as well as very little desire, to be included under the reproach of accepting that form of Christianity. . . . Against such doctrines as these Unitarians could only set the simpler faith of the early Christians, the purer theism of Jesus, their belief in the two great commandments, the humanity of Jesus and their larger conception of the incarnation. But, when it comes to deciding who are Christians on the basis of dogma, the church itself has never been able to come to any agreement. Catholics are doubtful about Protestants, and Protestants about Catholics; and Episcopalians do not recognize the ordination of ministers of Protestant denominations. In this age of the world there is no pope, council, or church of any kind with any authority to decide what Christianity is. If it is simply a question of majority, then we must all surrender to the superior numbers of the Roman Catholic Church, and *The Living Church* must give up its heresies and fall in line."

METHODS OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHING.

PERSONS who have any "definite suggestions to make" in regard to changes or improvements in the International series of Sunday-school lessons are invited to meet with the Lesson Committee in Philadelphia on March 17, when an opportunity will be given them to be heard. Suggestions which can not be sent in person may be submitted in writing. This invitation will doubtless meet with a large, generous, and varied response. This much may be conjectured at least from the criticisms which have been passed upon the International Lessons in recent days, and the large number of suggestions for improvement which have been made in the columns of the magazines and religious papers. An article severely condemning some features of the International system was contributed to the January *Review of Reviews* by Dr. Walter C. Hervey, president of the Teachers' College, New York, and such religious papers as *The Watchman* of Boston and *The Christian Work* of New York have been pointing out what they consider to be very serious defects in the prevailing system. More recently *The Independent* has published a symposium on the subject of Sabbath-school instruction, in which opinions of various kinds are presented. A leading contributor to this symposium is Rev. A. F. Schauffler, D.D., a well-known Sunday-school teacher and writer, and a member of the International Lesson committee. Dr. Schauffler defends the International system, as a whole, while he points out some ways in which it may be greatly improved. He dwells first upon the many advantages gained by the new system over the old, which it superseded twenty-five years ago. As to one criticism often urged against it, Dr. Schauffler says:

"It is asserted that the International system adopts the 'hop,

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skip, and jump' method. Granted. What else could it do if it is to cover the books of the Old and New Testaments in six years? This is an evil; but to some of us it is not as great an evil as that from which we were delivered in 1872, which resulted in the study of parts of the Bible to the utter exclusion of many other parts. Practically, under the old system many scholars knew absolutely nothing of the major part of the Old Testament; they had confined their study to the gospels and the Acts. It was to counteract this real evil that the principle was adopted of trying to cover the whole Bible as well as possible, the promoters of the principle knowing as well as any of their critics that they could not do it perfectly. But they thought—and that, too, rightly—that 'half a loaf is better than no bread,' and that of the two evils the newer was the less."

Among the suggestions for improvement which Dr. Schauffler makes, one relates to temperance lessons, now obligatory once a quarter. He thinks the number of these lessons ought to be left to the discretion of the lesson committee. He would also have a separate course for the primary scholars, confined to the Gospels and the Acts; he would have the selections from the Prophets and the Epistles "come in chronological sequence with the historical parts of the Word, and he would have more care exercised in the choice of golden texts." As a final suggestion Dr. Schauffler says:

"For the best results in our schools there must be regular teachers' meetings for the weekly study of the lesson. Until this is reached there will always be much poor teaching. To this end the ministers must take charge of this meeting in most communities, for they are the natural leaders in work of this kind. Laymen are few who are competent for this work, and unless the ministers do it, it will be left undone, to the great injury of the most important part of the work of any church. For what more important work is there than that which pertains to the conversion and the upbuilding of the rising generation? Absolutely none."

Following Dr. Schauffler's article is one by Prof. D. K. Kiehle, LL.D., of the University of Minnesota, on "How shall Christian Education be Conducted?" in which a strong plea is presented for a more thorough and systematic study of the Bible and of subjects relating to Christian history and doctrine. In answering the question as to what is to be the end of religious instruction, and what the test by which the success of efforts in this direction may be measured, Professor Kiehle says:

"First. It should establish in the heart and thought of the child the most vivid and perfect idea of the life and spirit of Jesus, as expressed in His words and acts.

"Second. It should acquaint him with the orderly and rational development of religious life as seen in the history, biographies, and institutions of the church."

Professor Kiehle also outlines a plan of religious instruction for persons of various ages, from the primary grades up, the plan including instruction for older scholars in the history of the church, the growth of missions and the history of particular denominations in ecclesiastical, doctrinal, and spiritual life.

The next contributor to the symposium is Erastus Blakeslee, D.D., the author of what is now known as the Bible Union course of study. Dr. Blakeslee proceeds to outline some of the principles which he thinks ought to be embodied in Bible study. Some of these points may be thus briefly stated:

The material selected for the lessons should be adapted to the age and capacity of the pupils. This obvious principle is universally applied except in Sunday-school work.

Sunday-school lessons should be so constructed as to require and reward study. They should not minister to sloth and indolence. Biblical knowledge must be acquired in the same way as other knowledge.

The Bible must be restored to the Sunday-school. It should be in the hands of every pupil, not because of the importunity of superintendents and teachers to bring Bibles to the school, but because the lessons are constructed in such a way as to require its constant use. This is the simple and straightforward way to accomplish this much-desired end.

Following all these, *The Independent* gives editorial expression to its own views of the matter, which are, in part, as follows:

"Under the prevailing system of International Lessons the first object held in view seems to be to have every infant and every adult, all over the world, study the same dozen verses the same Sabbath. There is a fine spectacular magnificence about the idea. It is like assigned topics for a week of prayer to be observed all around the globe, and it does express the unity of the churches which adopt it. But for a school, considered pedagogically, it contradicts all the results of experience. Who would think of having all our public schools required to teach all their pupils, of all ages, addition at ten o'clock every day for six months, the geography of France at eleven o'clock, and the physiology of intoxicants at two? But this is what is done in our Sunday-schools. All study at the same hour the same passage in Genesis, Micah, or Matthew.

"It is certainly time that the best methods now employed in secular instruction should be used in the religious instruction of the young. It is of essential importance because, practically, there is but about half an hour a week given to this teaching. There ought to be in it a progression from the simplest stories, which children can understand and delight in, to the historical and theological instruction of the Bible class. It is perfectly impossible to get this by the method now in vogue. It may do in a measure, tho poorly, for intermediate grades, but it is not adapted to primary classes, and it necessarily drives the older people out of the Sunday-school. They must have progressive teaching. The best that can be said for it is said in the article by Dr. Schauffler. It does supply a physical unity, but it makes no provision for advancement."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

ADVANCE sheets of the British Congregational Year-Book for 1897 show that there are now 2,867 ministers in England and Wales, 2,188 of whom are pastors actively engaged, and the number of churches and mission-stations is 4,607. Scotland has 187 churches and 201 clergymen; Ireland 27 churches and 28 clergymen.

ACCORDING to the New York *Observer* the Evangelical Church of Italy has now twenty-nine leading congregations, forty-seven smaller groups of believers, and one hundred and thirty-two preaching-stations, where evangelistic work is carried on. In its theological hall at Florence ex-priests as well as young civilians are offering themselves for training, and whole villages are desirous of being formed into new congregations.

THE Monmouth (Ill.) Presbytery recently deposed from the ministry and membership of the United Presbyterian Church the Rev. J. G. Stewart. He was "a successful evangelist, but persuaded himself into the belief that he could heal disease through faith and by prayer." He has now organized a new church, which he calls the Full Bible Church, and purposes to send out missionaries to establish the new sect throughout the country.

THE Boston *Herald* thinks Rev. Samuel A. Eliot is entitled to the prize for a short prayer. At the dinner of the Ohio Society, New York, he simply said, "As God was with the fathers, so may he be with the sons." To this *The Christian Register* adds: "But Dr. Cyrus A. Bartol made a shorter prayer some years ago, at a meeting of the Boston Association, when he reverently raised his hands to Heaven, and said, "Lord, we are here! Amen!"

IN reply to the request of the editor of a new English penny magazine, that he might send something for the first number, Mr. Gladstone replied that he does not feel himself qualified to take part in the effort, and that he is also hampered with engagements to which he must not add. "But," he goes on to say, "my heart and desire are wholly with you, if your undertaking is bent specially toward promoting the observance of the Lord's day. That observance is no article of the Christian faith, but for our country, at least, it lies at the very root of practical religious life."

DOCTOR JESSUP writes to *The Missionary Herald* that a French syndicate is building a large gambling hotel at Ain Soofar, one of the stations of the Damascus railway. This is intended to form a refuge for the gamblers at Monte Carlo when the Monaco license terminates. Several hundred men are engaged on the work, which is to cost £25,000. He also states that according to Mohammedan law gambling is illegal, and that it will lie with the Christian governor of Mt. Lebanon, who is appointed by six European powers, to say "whether this new gambling hell will be permitted to transfer its ravages to Syria."

The American Hebrew says that the colony Mishmar Hajarden, near Safet in Palestine, which was for many years struggling for life, will at last, through the appropriation of 90,000 francs through the Baron Hirsch fund, be started into a new existence. "The same will be the case with the colony Wad il Chanin, near Jaffa, for which the sum of 65,000 francs has been designated. The trustees of the Hirsch fund seem convinced that the sympathy of the intending colonists is more with Palestine than with Argentina, and that the difficulties and obstacles to overcome are not less in Argentina than in Palestine."

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FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

RUSSIA'S NEW FOREIGN MINISTER.

SINCE the death of Lobanow, Russia has not had a regularly appointed Gerant of the Foreign Office. The news that Nicholas II. has appointed Count Murajew, the Russian Ambassador at Copenhagen, to this important post is therefore received with much interest. Murajew was *persona grata* at the court of Copenhagen, and as the Queen of Denmark is known to hate everything German—a dislike which she has transmitted to her daughter, the mother of Emperor Nicholas—it is only natural that special political significance should be attached to the appointment of a man known to be her favorite. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* gives some interesting data regarding the family of the new Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, from which we take the following:

"The earl is the scion of one of the most distinguished and withal most liberal-minded families in Russia. His grandfather, Michael Nicolajevitch Murajew, was one of six Murajews among the Dekabrists who sought to overthrow absolutism in 1825. Sergius Murajew Apostol was hanged, the others were sent to Siberia. For ages the family has numbered many men of learning and science among its members. Michael Murajew, however, became a renegade. He renounced his liberal ideas, and rose to high rank. As governor of Poland he earned the *sobriquet* 'executioner of the Poles.' 'I do not number among the Murajews who are hanged,' he was wont to say, 'I prefer to hang other people.' How the present Minister of Foreign Affairs will stand with regard to the traditions of his family remains to be seen."

The *Fremdenblatt*, Vienna, warns against the rumors about Murajew's policy. It says:

"Murajew is at present fifty years old, a man of the world, and a typical diplomat. Perhaps he may wish to follow the maxim *fortiter in re;* in Copenhagen he acted according to the device *suaviter in modo*. We hear a great deal of his friendship for France and his dislike against Germany, but he is not the man to carry his heart on his tongue. As a professional diplomat he is much more likely to regard language as a means to hide thought. The count is a good whist-player, but his favorite game is chess, and in Copenhagen he has often met the English ambassador in this Indian game."

In France the appointment is regarded as another "circumstantial evidence" of Russia's friendship for the Gallic republic. The *Matin*, Paris, says:

"During his three years' sojourn at the patriarchal court of Denmark Count Murajew has had the good fortune of frequent intercourse with the imperial family of his country, whose members had sufficient opportunity to acquaint themselves with his many talents and the energy of his character. He has gained the good-will of the Empress-Dowager, especially as his views are in perfect harmony with her own, and he deserves her confidence specially for this reason. Count Murajew is an openly declared and resolute Francophile. Nicholas II. could not have made a choice more agreeable to France. The Franco-Russian alliance receives new significance from this appointment."

The *Journal des Débats*, *Gaulois*, and *Liberté* express themselves in a similar manner. The *Figaro* claims to have discovered a most peculiar reason for the appointment. It says:

"Count Murajew's name has historical significance. His grandfather subdued Poland. A Pole, Goluchowski, is at present Minister of Foreign Affairs in Austria. But Goluchowski has become a henchman to the Emperor of Germany, and is therefore an enemy of Russia. Emperor Nicholas has now appointed the grandson of the man who pacified Poland to neutralize the appointment of a Pole in Austria."

That Count Murajew will confer with his colleagues in Berlin and Vienna as well as the cabinet of France, is ignored by the French press. The German papers do not share the views of their French contemporaries. The *Vossische Zeitung* alone describes him as violently anti-German. The *Hamburger Nachrichten* says:

"Graf Murajew is a statesman with whom it is easy enough to get along. He is a gentleman, not only by birth, but also in character. He has often conducted the affairs of the Russian embassy in Berlin, but, altho he is loyal to his country, he has not shown principled antagonism to Germany. If he acts in accordance with the needs of Russia's foreign policy we have no reason to be dissatisfied, for at present Russia's interests are not opposed to those of Germany. Russia's policy *may* become anti-German, but that will be our own fault."

It should, however, be remembered that Bismarck's mouthpiece has never ceased to advocate a pro-Russian policy. In England there is a tendency to build great hopes upon this appointment, but the Conservative papers warn against such hopes. Thus *The St. James's Gazette* remarks:

"In the dearth of other information about Count Murajew, the new Russian Foreign Minister, the newspapers fall back with satisfaction on the thought that he is what is called a *persona grata* at the court of Copenhagen. On the whole the court of Copenhagen is naturally friendly to England, and the Danish royal house, which is so intimately allied by marriage alike to the Brunswicks and the Romanoffs, is a pleasant link between the reigning dynasties of the two great empires. But it is arguing rather far from small premises to maintain that because Count Murajew has been in Denmark, and because Denmark is friendly to England, therefore the new appointment is to be taken as a sign of Anglicizing policy in Russia."

The Spectator, London, says:

"Count Murajew is evidently regarded with a certain suspicion at Berlin, probably because the Court of Copenhagen is known to regard William II. with a fixed distrust; but a Russian minister, like a Russian sovereign, generally slides at last into the usual groove. The grand interest of Russia—viz., to get to the water on all sides—is so clear and so permanent that her policy only varies in non-essentials. If doubtful friends held Greenock, the Isle of Man, and Southampton, the policy of London would not be very fluctuating."—*Translations made for the* LITERARY DIGEST.

Are All European Monarchs Usurpers?—Everybody knows or has heard of the Almanach de Gotha, which contains, besides a wealth of other information usually ignored, a complete list of all the rulers of the world, and all the scions of noble families said to be in such demand in America. Few people, however, are aware that a tiny section of the British public dispute the correctness of the statements regarding reigning monarchs as contained in the Gotha publication. The *Gesellige*, Grandenz, says:

"The Jacobites are not altogether extinct in Great Britain. They have a paper of their own, *The Jacobite Herald*, in whose office also an almanac is prepared annually, which contains matter that seems passing strange to modern readers. To begin with Germany, the war of 1866 is altogether ignored. Princes who were deposed then are still recorded as rulers. The same course is followed with regard to Italy. King Humbert is recognized as 'King of Sardinia, Cyprus, and Jerusalem, Duke of Savoy, Prince of Piemont,' etc., but the compilers of the almanac are totally ignorant of the unification of Italy. In Portugal Don Miguel II. of Braganza is supposed to be king. Charles I., tho very much alive, is ignored. Spain is supposed to be ruled by Charles VII. The reigns of Queen Isabella, of Alfonso XII., and of Alfonso XIII. are passed over as non-existent. France, according to this almanac, has never been an empire or a republic. The book speaks of France and Spain as united under the rule of Charles VII. of Spain. The Queen of England is not the lady which is about to celebrate a reign of sixty years' duration, but Mary IV. And who is she? Why, Mary, wife of Prince Louis, heir to the throne of Bavaria, the nearest relative of the Stuarts, being a descendant of a daughter of Charles I."

The paper does not mention whether the Jacobite almanac is

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aware of the existence of a country called the United States, or whether it speaks of the American colonies only, with due respect to the Dutch possession of New Amsterdam and the rights of the Swedish crown in Delaware.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

AN AUSTRIAN ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PEACE.

THE *Neue Freie Presse*, Vienna, in an article on Britain's commercial and industrial monopoly, denies that Germany alone is a dangerous competitor to the island empire. This is well known in England. English aversion to Germany is due much more to German efforts for the preservation of peace than to her commercial rivalry. If a war could be started in Europe by which the attention of the European nations is entirely engaged, England could preserve her monopoly. It is the duty of all nations to defeat England's object. The article has received general attention. We quote from its contents as follows:

"A few years ago, when the Prince of Wales was in Budapest, the conversation of the gentlemen who accompanied him during his stay turned to Bismarck's comfortable, broad-brimmed felt hat. The Prince intimated that he would like to try such a hat. He was told that it could be purchased in Budapest, but he declared that he could not well make use of an article made in Austria, his custom being to purchase apparel of English manufacture only. This anecdote—an authentic one—illustrates better than anything else why the English people can afford to be free-traders. The people of Great Britain are more than any other trained to take care of national interests, and their discipline is very strict among all classes, from the highest to the lowest, where commercial interests are at stake. In England moral persuasion takes the place of protective tariffs. To this England owes her wealth, to this the fact that her increasing industries provided high wages for her workingmen during the early years of her free-trade policy. But her prosperity, being unnatural, can not last forever. An engineer may construct a reservoir in which the water stands higher than in others near it. But as soon as a channel connects the higher reservoir with the lower ones, the water will seek its natural level. This illustrates the decline of Britain's prosperity. The connecting channel is international competition. English commercial discipline may keep foreign manufactures out of the British Isles. In neutral markets the British workingman, to whom short hours, high wages, comfortable living, and plenty of sport seemed national advantages, was forced to compete with men willing to work harder than himself, especially as increased means of communication made it impossible to preserve the export trade as a British monopoly. Belgium, the United States, Germany, Switzerland, and other countries redoubled their efforts. They sold with a small margin, and found customers in neutral markets. The English middleman became a good customer in those markets. To this the English manufacturer objected, and the Foreign Merchandise Marks act of 1887 was the result. It acted like a boomerang. Foreign customers suddenly became aware of the origin of some of the best goods sold to them, and refused to put money into the English middleman's pockets. Then the Continental countries began to export direct, and their exports rose rapidly.

"It is an erroneous idea that England has really suffered. She still furnishes more than half of the industrial produce exported to neutral markets. But the Briton believes himself robbed if a slight stream of industrial and commercial enterprise is diverted into non-British channels. The people of England understand thoroughly the connection between trade and international politics. It does not serve their purpose to aggravate the United States. America has almost driven English iron and steel from the Australian markets, yet there is no outcry against American competition. To what extent England hopes to profit by a Continental war is illustrated by the struggle between France and Germany. French and German competition ceased in 1870, and the English cotton-spinners increased their plant 15 to 20 per cent. Many Englishmen believe that it is the duty of the Continental nations to ruin themselves in wars at least once in ten years. If we refuse to do so, we interfere with that industrial monopoly which fate has presented to Great Britain.

"At the present moment competition is exceptionally keen, and some of the profits come to us. It is to our interest that the struggle between the nations should remain an industrial one. It is no more than just that prosperity should be equally divided. Austria has no reason to join hands with England against Germany. Germany is our best customer, she holds our bonds and we profit by her export trade. How much England is to be trusted to assist us may be gathered from the fact that only recently she sought to create a blaze in Armenia, before our very gates."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE FAMINE AND THE GOVERNMENT IN INDIA.

THE English Government continues to be the target of criticism because of its treatment of the Indian famine. *The Friend of India*, Calcutta, censures the authorities for leaving the supply of grain to private enterprise at such a juncture, and demands not only that the export of grain from India should be prohibited, but also that the Government import what is necessary. It adds:

"Especially in India, where the state is the great landlord of the soil, the responsibility of saving the people from dying of hunger is one of which it can not divest itself. Yet what is the Government doing to provide against the famine that is looming like a shroud over the people? Instead of arranging for importing food on an adequate scale, the limit of its statesmanship is reached when it has ordered a ship-load of horse-carrot seed for the starving people. . . . The estimate officially put forward by the famine commissioners of the mortality in the last great famine, in Southern and Western India, in 1876–77, was 5,250,000 deaths. It was an underestimate. The present famine threatens greatly to surpass any other similar calamity of modern times, both in intensity and in the area over which the distress is spread. . . . Does Lord Elgin need reminding that money is merely a means to an end? That there will be public subscriptions before many weeks have passed, and on a vast scale, we have not the remotest doubt. But of what use will *money* be in keeping the people alive, when the food stocks of the country are exhausted and there is *no grain to be had*, except by importation from abroad?"

"It will be a hard year all over India," says *The Speaker*, "a year of famine, or something little removed from famine, among about one fourth of the enormous population of our Indian Empire." That the authorities are doing everything in their power to mitigate the sufferings of those starving millions is acknowledged by all moderate papers on the Continent. But there, as well as in England itself, the British Government is accused of having caused the present and preceding famines by a system of spoliation before which the worst military tyranny of Rome, Turkey, or Spain pale into insignificance. Among Englishmen it is chiefly the nonconformist conscience which protests against the manner in which India is exploited. *The Bombay Guardian* has an article by the Rev. W. Shoolbred, D.D., whose remarks on the connection between famine and opium-growing we condense as follows:

The cultivation of the poppy does not ruin the Chinese alone. The war by which China was forced to admit the pernicious drug when the Chinese Government prohibited it is in a great measure the cause of famine in India. The southern states in Rajputana, including the country of Molwa, rejoice in a deep, rich black soil, and a good average rainfall which rarely fails. They are therefore extremely fertile, and before the development of the opium traffic were the granary of less fertile northern Rajputana, greatly cheapening food in ordinary years and mitigating scarcity in bad years. Now the southern region imports grain from the north to feed the poppy-growing population. Hence the price of grain is kept unnaturally high, and during droughts both regions are plunged into famine. When I passed through Molwa I found nine out of every ten fields waving with the poppy, altho thou-

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sands of people were dying for want of the food which these fields should have produced. The people who cultivate the poppy are all addicted to the use of opium. "There is not a man, woman, or child among us that has not taken to the use of the drug," I was told. And all this that the Government may be able to reap the benefits of the export tax of £60 ($300) on every chest of opium leaving the country. In Molwa, as in Bengal, the Government is directly responsible for this state of affairs, and with the Government the British Parliament and the British people share the responsibility.

The continued export of grain from famine-stricken India, the enormous taxes paid by the poorest people, and the high duty collected on the bare necessities of life—salt is taxed 700 per cent—are described as contributory to the continual distress of the masses in India. *Justice*, the Socialist paper of London, says:

"India is inhabited by 250,000,000. Their average income is 15 shillings [$3.75] per year per head. Over £70,000,000 [$350,000,000] have been spent during the last eighteen years on frontier expeditions for which the people of India have been made to pay. The Famine Relief Fund of £15,000,000 [$75,000,000], raised by crushing additional taxation, has been spent in the same way. Europeans have been employed more and more to the exclusion of natives as officials, their salaries, saved largely to be spent in England, amount to £20,000,000 [$100,000,000] annually; £25,000,000 [$125,000,000] are drawn from India annually to pay interest and the pensions of English officials. All this has to be paid in gold, altho the Government has stopped the coinage of silver, thus reducing one half the exchange value of the small savings set aside by the people in the shape of silver earrings, bangles, etc., to meet the pinch of scarcity. If we ceased to extort so outrageous a tribute there would be no serious famine. England herself has directly caused and is now daily aggravating the famine in India."

The same paper declares that, in the face of these facts, "the attempt of wealthy Englishmen to cover up their iniquity by spurious charity is an outrage." The charge that the Famine Relief Fund has been appropriated for other expenses, and the discouragement of Russian collections for the relief of the sufferers, seems to cause much dissatisfaction in India. Altho the British Government in India as in Egypt forces native rulers to suppress anti-British papers, there are signs of dissatisfaction even in the native press. Commenting on the death of a coolie killed by the English soldiers, the Bengal *Hitavad* says:

"Go then, Ganes, to that blessed abode where the wicked do not oppress and where injustice is not tolerated. And every sigh, every tear of your relatives and your countrymen will fall on the soil of this country like a spark of fire, until the English Government will, perhaps, see one day a grand conflagration brought about by millions of these sparks."

In Germany some interest has been created by the manner in which the English Socialists seek to propagate their agitation during a time when the Government is in difficulties, precisely as the German Socialists do in Germany. During a meeting at the Mansion House, at which the Lord Mayor of London presided, the Duke of Connaught asked the British people to assist the Government with funds. The Socialist leader, Hyndman, proposed an amendment, asking the Government to spend part of the money drawn from India for interest and high salaries to relieve the famine. A terrible uproar was the answer to this amendment. Hyndman's words nevertheless created an echo. He received telegrams from Indian students, from which we select the following:

"Heartily sympathize with your amendment.—SUKUMAR, Sen.," Cambridge.

"Heartily sympathize with your amendment.—C. DUTT."

"Heartily support your amendment.—J. ROY."

"Heartily sympathize with your amendment.—S. GUPTA."

"Heartiest support to amendment. Indians grateful for your advocacy.—PARBATT CHURN ROY."

"Heartily sympathize with your amendment.—BASU, St. Peter's College, Cambridge."

"Most Indians here heartily sympathize with your amendment and feel grateful to you.—J. BAFIETA, Cambridge."

The comments of the Continental press are in the main unfavorable to England, and may be summed up in the remark of the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, which hopes that the people and Government of Great Britain will serve the cause of humanity by becoming as much excited over the woes of India as if they were busying themselves with affairs which do not concern them.

The St. James's Gazette, London, admits that the demonetization of silver has hurt the ryots, and advises increased charity to make up the difference. It adds:

"It is satisfactory to see that the subscription is being taken up in the Colonies. This is as reasonable and just as it is creditable. Both Canada and Australia have direct relations with India. At home the subscription has already reached a figure which is large, but not exactly creditable to the munificence of our millionaires. We trust it will soon surpass the figure of the last famine fund. England is richer now than it was then, and the need may well be even greater. . . . Those very ill-bred persons, the anti-English journalists of all nations, who appear to think that there is something heroic in scolding at England, have resumed all their old platitudes. Of course, we are told that Englishmen care for nothing except to get their merchandise."

WAR ON STOCK-GAMBLING IN GERMANY.

GERMANY is the scene of a unique "strike." The German grain-dealers in many cities stay away from the produce exchanges. Among the laws recently enacted in Germany are strict regulations for the prevention of gambling in stocks at the stock exchange. These have been followed by laws prohibiting the dealing in futures at the produce exchange. The majority of the Germans are still connected with agricultural pursuits, and they believe that the farmer is robbed of his just reward, the fluctuations of the grain market being exploited by speculators for their own benefit, to the detriment of the producer. The grain-dealers accepted the law prohibiting time bargains, tho with much grumbling. When, however, a law was passed that a few farmers or millers must be made members of the governing board of every produce exchange, they revolted. They lay the blame for this obnoxious piece of legislation chiefly upon the landed gentry, who, as leaders of the Agrarian movement, are the spokesmen of the agricultural population. Throughout Europe the Liberal papers deny that it is necessary to supervise the work of business men.

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, says:

"Trade under a kind of police supervision exercised, in the first place, by the Agrarians—that is an insult to the merchant class. It is therefore not to be wondered at that some exchanges have made up their mind to dissolve and to form free unions. Others are sure to follow the example. To what extent this can be done is not quite certain, as the produce exchange is too closely connected with the stock exchange to permit a radical change of the system everywhere. Thus much is certain: the business of the exchange in general and the trade in breadstuffs in particular are about to enter upon a period of much depression. A new organization will be necessary, and it is doubtful that even the most narrow-minded Agrarians can regard this as advantageous to the agricultural section of the people."

The *Berliner Tageblatt* commends the members of the produce exchanges for their exhibition of manhood in dealing with the arrogant Agrarians. The *Boersen Zeitung* talks of "weak governments" and "idiotic legislation." The *Weser Zeitung*, Bremen, says:

"We live in times in which a large part of our population would cease to exist if there was a stoppage of the trade in breadstuffs. Enormous masses of grain must be supplied, and the least interference would cause a catastrophe. But the powerful mechanism which provides us with bread has been developed by private in-

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dividuals only. It owes nothing to the wisdom of the legislator. This mechanism works well. Famines, in former ages not unknown among us, have passed beyond our conception. With the help of the telegraph, the railroad, and the steamship, and assisted by an admirable correspondence, the modern speculator has removed the danger of starvation from the masses. It would appear that its successful work ought to preserve the produce exchange from unjust attacks. But, unfortunately, the ancient superstition of 'usury in grain' still exists, in spite of the fact that usury is almost impossible in these days of international exchange."

The *National Zeitung*, Berlin, thinks that "German business men have allowed themselves to be ruled by the nobility too long. The assistance of the business man is necessary in all national transactions, but the landed gentry always take the lead." The *Saale Zeitung*, Halle, declares that "business men are as honorable as other people, and they need no one to teach them their business, or to supervise it." The *Nation*, Berlin, whose editor never swerves from the doctrine of journalistic infallibility, and which has become one of the most important pillars of the German Manchestermen, declares outright that the intelligence of the Agrarians is too limited to understand important business transactions. "The Agrarians," says the paper, "have shown that they lack the energy and brain power which modern civilization demands of legislators, yet they seek to retain the social advantage which is still theirs." The paper believes that the battle is not one between grain-producers and grain-dealers, but a revival of the old struggle between the commoner and the noble. It continues:

"The fight against the produce exchange is a struggle for higher prices for grain, but higher prices can not be obtained in a lasting manner unless we have a protective tariff. Protection means the destruction of all existing commercial treaties, and a heavy blow to our export trade and industries. Even this would not satisfy the Agrarians. They do not only seek to increase their incomes, they want to rid themselves of their debts by the abolition of the gold standard. The fight of the exchange is the prelude to a struggle which will be forced upon the entire commerce and industry of Germany. Let the commoners remember this: it is their duty to assist the exchange."

The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, regards the threats of the speculators as idle, but admits that a certain amount of depression in business circles may be the direct result of the "strikes." It says:

"The most important produce exchange in Germany is that of Berlin. The closing of the exchanges at Halle, Braunschweig, etc., is not likely to exercise much influence. Stettin, however, which deals chiefly in Russian produce, is more important. It will, however, be wise to wait and see whether the dealers will be as good as their word. Their attitude seems to us neither just nor prudent. It is quite true that the exchanges have been called into existence by the necessity of combined action on the part of the merchants, but they retain somewhat of the character of public markets, and as such they must remain under the supervision of the state. The legislature has not interfered with private business, it has solely taken care of the interests of the entire nation. There is nothing dishonoring in the new regulations, which have already been accepted by the stock exchange. The very fact that the regulations have not been opposed by all the produce exchanges proves this. The supply of grain for the entire nation is so important a matter that it seems to us very reasonable that the farmer and the miller should have a say in the matter. These men will, of course, be in the minority; they can not influence the exchange, they can only see that fair play is given. That the producers wish to raise the price of grain on the whole is a childish accusation on the part of the speculators. Everybody knows that the German producer can not do this with an article in which London, New York, Chicago, in fact the whole world are dealing. That the dealers can evade the law is not likely, even if they combine in 'free unions.' The Government is strong enough in Germany to give the laws due force. It is much more likely that the places of the 'strikers' will be filled by other men. The only result of prolonged resistance on the part of the speculators will be that the enmity which already exists against them among wide circles of the nation will be much increased. The members of the exchanges can not wish this."

The *Kreuz Zeitung*, Berlin, thinks that an honorable member of the produce exchange is no more insulted by this supervision than an officer who, however conscientious in the discharge of his duties, is always watched by his superiors. The *Deutsche Tages Zeitung*, which favors bimetalism, thinks such Americans as Peffer, Allen, and Bryan will be pleased to hear that German dukes, princes, and barons are as vile as themselves, while the German nobles can not help thinking that the Populists, who have so lately been held up as the "horrible example," are right good fellows. The *Volk* is grateful for what it calls "an exhibition of the loyalty of the speculators," and adds: "These people are never tired of preaching that the law must be upheld. But when a law does not suit them, they declare their solidarity with the swindlers."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Defective Schools in Canada.—The editor of *The Canadian Magazine* thinks that Manitoba is not the only province of Canada that has a school question. "The cancer of Ontario," he says, "is not the liquor traffic, not the protective tariff, not party politics, not lack of resources, people, or opportunities, but her system of education. It is spreading out its gnawing arms and sapping her strength and destroying her vitality. Year by year it grows more deadly, and soon—but perhaps the language is too strong.

"Our high-schools are robbing Ontario of her brightest and best. Go through the towns and cities of the United States and you find bright young Canadians everywhere. What sent them there? My answer is: Our high-school system. Go through Canadian towns and cities, and you find them filled with starving doctors, lawyers, pedagogs, and civil engineers. Who took all these from the plow, the bench, the machine, and the counter, and sent them out to be consumers of wealth instead of producers? I am fain to return the same answer."

The trouble with the schools, the editor thinks, is that they turn out pupils for the learned professions alone and teach them to despise all other careers.

FOREIGN NOTES.

THE income-tax furnishes the Government of Prussia with an appreciable percentage of its income, altho wealthy men are not as numerous there as in England, France, or the United States. There are 8,445 Prussians whose fortunes are valued above $250,000. Between them they pay over $7,000,000 income-tax.

DR. GRENIER, a French convert to Islam, and now a member of the French Parliament, has his little say with regard to the decline of the population of France. He advocates polygamy to mitigate the evil. If men who are able and willing to support more than one spouse were allowed to do so, he thinks, there would be less old maids, more happy mothers, and a large number of children in France.

"DON'T read a newspaper if you wish to know what's going on in the world," writes a German contemporary. "If the news is interesting, it is generally without foundation; if true, the facts are generally distorted; if a plain statement, it is generally uninteresting." This seems to be borne out by the story of the elopement of the Princess of Coburg. She had been ill-treated by her husband, so the tale ran; an Austrian officer ran away with her, her husband fought a duel with the gay lieutenant, and so on. Every newspaper in the land knew something about it, and most of them commented editorially upon the affair. And now the world is informed officially that the Field-Marshal Prince Coburg has been living quietly with his wife in Vienna all this time, that he is still there, and that neither he nor his wife know anything of the matter!

COMMENTING upon a recent book entitled "The Jews as Soldiers," *The Saturday Review* thinks the writer "should have told the story of the German Israelite's capture of a French eagle in the Franco-Prussian War. One of the Rothschilds, anxious to wipe out the stigma of cautious peacefulness under which his race labors, gave notice that he would present a handsome sum of money to any Hebrew soldier in the German army who might capture a French flag. Such a capture was made, and in due course the Jewish warrior came up for the promised reward. After he had received it the delighted donor invited the recipient into his private room, and begged him to recount the glorious episode. 'Well, my lord, it was in this way,' said the hero: 'the French soldier who carried the eagle was also one of the race, so we did it on joint account.'"

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MISCELLANEOUS.

MRS. LINCOLN IN WASHINGTON.

IT was not a pleasing rôle that Mrs. Lincoln had thrust upon her when she was called upon in 1861 to preside over the White House. Washington society at that time was strongly Southern in its sympathies, and the term "Black Republican" was still one of opprobrium. Mr. Leslie J. Perry, who writes of "Lincoln's Home Life in Washington" (*Harper's Magazine*, February), reminds us of this condition of affairs, and goes on to describe the difficulties of Mrs. Lincoln's position:

"Every ingenuity of malice was resorted to to discredit the new *régime*. Both the President and his wife were mercilessly lampooned; and yet Mrs. Lincoln was the peer of any woman in Washington in education and character, as well as the 'barren ideality' of birth. W. O. Stoddard—one of the private secretaries, and a keen observer—in his little book, 'Inside the White House in War-Time,' says that Mrs. Lincoln was prepared to assume a leading part. As her lieutenant in the official household, he noted that she was an authoritative mistress, but listened patiently to sensible representations, and oftentimes yielded her judgment; that her instructions were given in a kindly and vivacious manner; that she was a pleasant-looking woman—'bright, cheerful, almost merry' sometimes. The servants always spoke of her as 'the madam.' Says Stoddard, 'As you look at her and talk with her, the fact that she has so many enemies strikes you as one of the moral curiosities of this venomous time.'

"She dressed well, even extravagantly. In her little book, 'Behind the Scenes,' Mrs. Keckley, who was Mrs. Lincoln's dressmaker, speaks of having made fifteen dresses for her in three or four months. This authority says no queen could have comported herself with more dignity than Mrs. Lincoln at all public functions.

"Yet this woman was stigmatized by a certain class of Washington society as low, vulgar, and even ignorant—without any qualifications for the high station to which she had been called.

"The calumny which wounded her most deeply was her alleged sympathy with the rebellion, which had its sole foundation in the fact that her Kentucky half-brothers were Confederates, altho she had held no intercourse with them since their childhood. It was said and believed that she hampered her husband in every possible way in the prosecution of the war. In self-protection she wished Mr. Stoddard to examine all her correspondence. It is certain that she loyally desired the success of her husband and the great cause he so ably directed. In a printed letter to Mrs. Keckley Mrs. Lincoln asserts positively that her sympathies were strongly with the North during the war, and always. 'I have never failed to urge my husband to be an *extreme* Republican.' As Lincoln always consulted and relied upon her judgment, it is hardly probable he would have taken the advanced Republican ground against slavery in his house-divided-against-itself speech in 1858 without her approval, which strongly corroborates her claim. There is plenty of evidence of her loyalty. Nobody around the White House seems to have questioned it."

Mr. Perry publishes a number of telegrams that passed between Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln during the course of his first Administration. These telegrams, many of them at least, are still preserved in the archives of the War Department. None of them is of special importance, but taken altogether they display the domestic side of Lincoln's character, and evince, even in the most trying times during the war, a remarkable solicitude regarding even the petty affairs of home, such as Tad's desire to have his pistol back, the health of the goats, and the new tires on the carriage-wheels. One telegram indicates the President's regard for premonitions. It runs:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 9, 1863.

MRS. LINCOLN, Philadelphia, Pa.:

Think you better put Tad's pistol away. I had an ugly dream about him. A. LINCOLN.

The pistol was taken away, which reminds Mr. Perry of Carpenter's statement that Lincoln, on the evening of his renomination, told John Hay and himself, in all seriousness, of having seen a double image of himself that day in a mirror, the two parts being exactly alike, except that one image was paler than the other. Mrs. Lincoln feared that this betokened that he would not live through his second term.

A STUDY OF OSTRICHES.

ONE impression that comes uppermost on reading what W. M. Gray has to say about the habits of ostriches is, that articles on this subject in our books of reference can compete with the sensational newspapers in the matter of misinformation. The ostrich Mr. Gray writes about (*Cosmopolitan*, February) and the ostrich the public has been taught to believe in are very different kinds of birds. The real ostriches, as they manifest themselves on an American farm, do not leave the eggs to be hatched by the sun, do not stick their head in the grass or sand and think they are hidden, and the chicks do not live upon an extra supply of eggs left near the nest. But, to save our feelings to some degree, we are assured that the ostrich will swallow almost anything it can get, including corkscrews and lighted pipes!

We quote from Mr. Gray's article as follows:

"There are at present only three ostrich-raising farms in the United States. To get at the truth of the matter the writer spent a day with Mr. Edwin Cawston, proprietor of the largest of these farms. He is the only ostrich-raiser who imported his birds from Africa and has remained in the business since. Mr. Cawston reached California with forty-two birds, which were brought over in a chartered ship in 1886, before the present prohibitory duty of five hundred dollars a bird covered all South African territory. His farm, forty acres in extent, is situated at Norwalk, eighteen miles from Los Angeles, and contains nearly two hundred native ostriches, all but one of the African birds having died off, unable to survive the long journey and change of climate. It has only been within a few years that the native birds have been old enough to lay, which accounts for the apparently small result of a ten years' trial. But over three hundred birds have been raised on this farm during that time, and the chicks from now on will increase at the rate of at least a hundred a year. . . . A number of the best-feathered birds were penned off in pairs for breeding purposes in separate corrals, of which there were five to an acre, with a six-foot passage way between each to keep the male birds from fighting. In South Africa, where there are two or three thousand acres to a farm, such small corrals would be laughed at; and even here it was thought necessary at first for each enclosure to contain an acre. But the experiment at Norwalk has proved very successful, and the birds are spending their lives in their present narrow quarters in a very healthy and happy condition. By being well fed they are kept even in better condition than the birds running in 'troops.' These breeding-birds are very vicious during the laying season. The attendants never dare go in the corrals with them, for fear of their lives. Ostriches can strike a terrific forward and downward blow with their feet, and with incredible quickness. They have been known to injure a horse so severely that it had to be shot.

"After the rainy season is over the male bird scoops out a round hole in the sand about three feet across and a foot deep, in which the hen does her laying, after she is three or four years old. One egg is laid every other day, until there are twelve to fifteen in the nest, lying there naturally, not placed carefully on end, as frequently stated. During this period, before sitting begins, a little sand is placed on the top of each egg by the hen to protect it from the heat of the sun. This may have given rise to the burying-in-the-sand theory. As soon as the full number of eggs are laid, both birds do their share of the hatching, incubation lasting forty-two days. The male bird does most of the work, sitting from four or five in the afternoon until nine o'clock in the morning, when the hen takes her turn for the day, with an hour off at noon, during which time she is relieved by her mate. A good pair will keep this up with great regularity till it is time for the chicks to arrive, when the mother will often help them out by pressing the eggs with her breast-bone, sometimes even seizing a chick by

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its head in her broad beak and literally shaking it out of its shell.

"It is interesting to watch the birds carefully settle down upon the nest and dispose of their long legs among the eggs. And yet a standard book of reference describes the hatching as follows: 'As the ostrich is extremely large and heavy, she would break her eggs if she were to sit upon them like other birds; she therefore hides them in the sand, watches them, and hatches them, as it were, with her eye.'

"Occasionally an ostrich, as also a man, becomes possessed of a desire to relieve his wife of all her duties, and quietly insists upon sitting all the time on the eggs while she walks abroad in search of food and recreation.

"The chicks are taken away from the old birds as soon as hatched, and raised near the house, being kept warm at night in well-covered boxes. This is done so that another sitting may be obtained the same season. Raising two batches of chicks in this manner by the natural method has proven more satisfactory at Norwalk than by artificial incubator, tho the incubator is sometimes used. Whenever the chicks are raised by their parents the latter are very proud of them, letting them run about during the day and brooding them only at night.

"It was stated a few years ago that a pair of birds in their prime would raise from forty to seventy chicks a year for five successive years, but in point of fact an average of ten chicks a year for that length of time is all that can be expected, altho as many as thirty-two chicks have been taken from one pair of birds in a single year. If the eggs are taken away from the nest a good many more will be laid, but a much smaller proportion of chicks are hatched when the incubator is used.

"All the ostriches over four or five months old, except the breeding birds, run in 'troops' in large pastures during the day; at night they are placed in a picket-fence enclosure to protect them from the dogs and coyotes. Altho an ostrich will charge a man on horseback, it is afraid of a dog or any other small animal. The reason for this is that an ostrich can not strike a heavy blow with its foot at less than three feet above the ground. When a man is attacked by an ostrich he can gain some safety by lying down, otherwise he is apt to be killed, unless he has a rake or long, forked stick to place against the bird's neck and so keep it out of kicking distance, the big toe or claw being very sharp and powerful.

"The ostrich measures over seven feet in height, weighs two hundred and fifty to three hundred pounds, and lives on an average about seventy years. It eats two and one half or three pounds of alfalfa hay and seven pounds of sugar-beets per day—not 'forty pounds of alfalfa, besides its other food,' as has been stated. The feed for one cow will support ten ostriches. The ostrich also eats some corn, and picks up pebbles, ground bones, etc., these hard substances being used to grind the food in the stomach. The little chicks when a few days old will eat the fresh alfalfa and pick up little pieces of gravel. But, according to an encyclopedia, they can not digest the hard food their parents eat, so thirty eggs are left lying about the nest before the sitting begins, for the new-born chicks to feed upon. Imagine their poor little stomach struggling with those thirty great, six weeks' old, baked-in-the-sun eggs, when one fresh egg alone has provided an omelet for twenty-eight human beings!

"The forty acres at Norwalk not only furnish running-room and pastures for the birds, but all their food is raised on the farm except the bulk of the hay, which has to be bought. However, not less than twenty acres of land should be provided for every hundred birds.

"An ostrich will swallow almost anything it can get, such as oranges, nails, nuts, leather, beets, and pieces of wood and iron. Among other things, they have been seen to swallow a gimlet, a watch, a lighted pipe, a sock, and a rolled-up newspaper.

"The eggs weigh three to three and a half pounds each, and are equal to more than two dozen hen's eggs. The shells, which are very hard and strong, are frequently used for souvenirs, after being fancifully decorated.

"The feathers of the ostrich are, of course, what it is raised for. There are about a thousand on each bird. All of them are put to some use, including those picked up on the ground, which the birds shed. Only about three hundred of the largest and best feathers are plucked, from the wings and tail. The most valuable of these are the twenty-five long white plumes that grow on each wing of the male. The rest of the feathers are black on the male, and drab or grayish on the female.

"Plucking takes place every eight or nine months from the time the birds are eight months old, and is quite an interesting sight. The birds are driven into a small corral, and from there, one at a time, into a narrow V-shaped boarded place with a door at the end, which is opened to let the ostrich out after it is plucked. During the operation a long, narrow bag, shaped like a stocking, is placed over the head of the bird to blindfold him, so he will remain quiet; there is a hole left in the end of the bag through which he sticks his beak to breathe. But still care must be taken to keep back of the bird to avoid being kicked.

"Great care must be taken in the plucking, as carelessness or mistakes may interfere with the future growth of the feathers, and the harm done can never be repaired. . . .

"London is the mart of the world for ostrich feathers, twenty to thirty tons of them being sold there at auction every two months. Over seven million dollars' worth of raw feathers are shipped from South Africa annually, while less than ten thousand dollars' worth are raised in this country.

"There are thousands of acres of land in California fitted for ostrich-raising, and there is no reason why it should not become an important industry there before many years, the experiment having already become an assured success.

"The feathers from each bird are worth thirty dollars a year to the producer, and the cost of keeping the birds, including labor, is not much in proportion. There was a time when birds sold in Africa as high as five thousand dollars a pair, but now any one wishing to start a farm in California can buy three-months-old chicks for fifty dollars a pair or less, and raise them himself."

CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

Mosquitoes and Malaria.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

In your issue of the 12th ult. you quote part of an article by Dr. Amigo Bignani in which he endeavors to sustain the hypothesis that mosquitoes inoculate humans with malaria.

Permit me to call your attention to the fact that malarial disease does not originate on the Florida Keys, altho mosquitoes are there in plenty.

ASTOR, FLA. E. E. ROPES.

A Phonograph as a Vocal Dictionary.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

Has the use of a phonograph as a *vocal dictionary* ever been suggested? If not, I should like to have others consider what seems to me desirable, viz., that public libraries be furnished with means of giving an authoritative *utterance* of any words in any living language. The word might be given alone, or with the context in which it is used. This, in some cases, I think would be preferable, as single words uttered for correct pronunciation are often over-emphasized. Perhaps what I say has been already thought of; in which case, of course, I have nothing to ask.

JOHN B. TABB.

ST. CHARLES COLLEGE, ELLICOTT CITY, MD.

High Speed in Railway Trains.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

Your excellent publication is usually so discriminating as to the scientific items it publishes that perhaps you may not object to having your attention called to some fundamental inaccuracies in an article quoted by you, in your issue of January 16, from the Boston *Journal of Commerce*. "What a Fast Locomotive Does" is the title of the paragraph, and its writer, after an entirely nonsensical use of words, states: ". . . so that the amount of power exerted and steam generated in a given period of time must be eight times as great at . . . (60 miles an hour as at 30)." This is mere nonsense. In broad terms we may say that the force opposing the movement of a train may be divided into two parts: mechanical (sliding and rolling) friction, and fluid resistance. The latter consists simply of the opposition of the air, and, so far as it is concerned, the energy necessary to overcome it has to be exercised at a rate proportional to the cube of the speed. While this resistance is sometimes surprisingly large, it is obviously a very minor consideration, and, so far as the main item of what I have termed "mechanical friction" goes, the rate of supply of energy required as the speed rises will usually be *slightly less* than in proportion to the speed.

A corollary of this is that, since the resistance to the motion of vessels through water is solely fluid resistance, we have this startling fact: That *any* vessel, however huge, may be moved, at a sufficiently low speed, with an expenditure of energy less than that required to move a single passenger car at the same speed; but, as the rate of energy supply in the former case must rise proportionately to the cube of the speed, we reach a point (about 35 miles an hour) where all the engines and boilers a well-designed vessel can carry will not serve to accelerate its velocity. On the other hand, so far as mere speed goes and omitting consideration of safety, there would be no difficulty in driving a machine designed for the purpose over a smooth track at 150 miles per hour.

The paragraph in question goes on to mention that a piston of 18 inches in diameter has an area of 54½ square inches, and upon this notable discovery builds calculations to the effect that the astonishing force of 38,175 pounds is applied to the said piston by steam under 150 pounds. What would the writer of the article think of the not unusual pressure of a quarter of a million pounds on the low-pressure piston of many marine engines!

RUMFORD FALLS, ME. ERNEST A. LE SUEUR.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

The dissolution of the steel rail pool and an enormous purchase of print cloths are the features of the week. There is an advance in leather goods, decrease in railroad earnings, and downward tendency of prices and products. Wheat rose a cent on Tuesday and later declined 2.37 cents. *Dun's Review* reports 267 failures in the United States against 321 last year and 61 in Canada against 67 last year.

Disruption of the Steel Rail Pool.—"No other event of the week approaches in importance the disruption of the steel rail pool. In two days after it, a greater tonnage of rails was probably purchased than the entire production last year, reported as 800,000 tons, and instead of $28 in December, and $25 in January, $17 is now the price at which works East and West are seeking orders, the Carnegie Company even selling at $17 Chicago delivery. These sales will employ many thousand hands, with an important decrease in the cost of track-laying or renewals to railroads. Even more important is the result that reconstruction of the billet pool will be impossible, as long as the contest over rails continues, and the manufacture of structural forms, bars, rods, wire, nails, tin plates, and many other products, has a chance to secure cheap material. In the near future, also, is the struggle between the two great companies producing Mesabic iron ore, one allied with the Illinois Steel and the other with the Carnegie Company, which is expected to bring about lower prices for ore, and to push many mines to their utmost capacity. But in the war of rival interests, wages are already reduced by some large concerns."—*Dun's Review, February 13.*

Purchase of Print Cloths.—"Another event of influence is the purchase of 750,000 pieces of print cloths by M. C. D. Borden at 2.56 cents, which has already caused an advance to 2.69 cents, with a stronger tone for prints and other cotton goods. The moral influence of such a purchase, manifesting confidence in the future, is apt to be great. As the contract to shut down part time many mills producing print cloths is going into effect, the productive capacity and wages of operatives will be for a time reduced, but if a demand of traders to replenish stocks is started, the effect may be altogether beneficial. The woolen industry also meets an increased demand for low and medium goods, and a dozen more mills have started against three stopping for various reasons. Clay mixtures are reduced to 75 cents, with other prices maintained."—*Dun's Review, February 13.*

Reduced Railway Earnings.—"January gross railway earnings reflect the quieter trade in that month than in January, 1896, while showing the effect of reduced grain tonnage and severe storms in the Northwest. Every group of American roads shows a falling-off from January a year ago. Increases in January are few and small, the largest being only slightly in excess of $50,000, while seventeen systems show decreases in excess of that amount. Heaviest decreases from January a year ago are reported by the Pacific and granger groups, while smallest losses are by the Southwestern and Southern roads. Total earnings of 114 railroad companies for January aggregate $34,560,827, a falling-off of 6.8 per cent. from a year ago, compared with a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in December from December, 1895, and 10 per cent. in November from the total in that month a year before. January earnings 1896 increased 11.3 per cent. over January, 1895. Mexican roads gained 18.3 per cent. in January over a year ago.

"Gross and net returns of leading railroads for the calendar year 1896 show a striking similarity as to volume to those of 1895. Total gross receipts of seventy companies give a total of $726,950,409 for 1896, a falling-off of only about $2,000,000, or two tenths of 1 per cent., from 1895, while net earnings aggregate $220,026,742, a decrease of nine tenths of 1 per cent. from the total in the preceding year. For December gross earnings fell off 2 per cent., while net earnings decreased 1.3 per cent. from those for 1895."—*Bradstreet's, February 13.*

Standstill in Canada.—"While there is no particular improvement in trade at Toronto, there is a better inquiry for goods for spring delivery. A fair number of orders are being received by Montreal jobbers, but for limited amounts. Trade at the interior is fairly active, as country roads are in good condition. At Halifax business remains dull, and the outlook for improvement in the near future is not bright."—*Bradstreet's, February 13.*

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CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

The International Match.

The International Chess-Match between Great Britain and America came to a close Saturday afternoon, February 13, and the Englishmen won. The result of the match follows:

AMERICA.			GREAT BRITAIN.	
Table.	*Result.*			*Result.*
1. Pillsbury	½	ag't	Blackburne	½
2. Showalter	1	"	Locock	0
3. Burille	0	"	Atkins	1
4. Barry	1	"	Lawrence	0
5. Hymes	½	"	Mills	½
6. Hodges	½	"	Bellingham	½
7. Delmar	1	"	Blake	0
8. Helms	0	"	Jackson	1
9. Teed	0	"	Cole	1
10. McCutcheon	0	"	Jacobs	1
Total	4½		Total	5½

The Chess trophy was won last year by the American team, and after their defeat Saturday they were unanimous in saying that a determined effort would be made to bring the prize back to this country.

Pillsbury says, in the New York *Journal*:

"The match seemed to demonstrate the superiority of our veterans. On the first seven boards, which were all occupied by last year's players, we won 3, lost 1, drew 3. But the new men, lacking experience, pulled us down."

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The Lasker-Steinitz Match.

NINTH GAME.

Queen's Gambit Declined.

	STEINITZ. *White.*	LASKER. *Black.*		STEINITZ. *White.*	LASKER. *Black.*
1	P—Q 4	P—Q 4	19	R—Q B sq	Kt—Kt 5
2	P—Q B 4	P—K 3	20	R—R sq	Kt—B 7
3	Kt—Q B 3	Kt—K B 3	21	R—R 2	Kt—Kt 5
4	B—Kt 5	B—K 2	22	R—R 4	P—Q R 4 (d)
5	P—K 3	Castles	23	Kt—Q 4	Kt—B 4
6	Q—Kt 3	P x P	24	R—R sq	R—Kt sq
7	B x P	P—B 4	25	Kt—R 4	Kt x Kt
8	P x P	Q—R 4	26	P x Kt	B—R 3 (e)
9	Kt—B 3	Q x P	27	B x B	Kt x B
10	Castles	Kt—B 3	28	Kt—B 6	R—Kt 2 (f)
11	B—K 2	Kt—Q 2 (a)	29	Kt x P	P x Kt
12	Kt-K 4 (b)	Q—Kt 3	30	R x Kt	R x P
13	B x B	Q x Q	31	R x P	R—Q sq
14	P x Q	Kt x B	32	R—Q Kt 5	R—B 7
15	K R-Q sq	Kt—Q 4	33	P—R 3	P—Kt 3 (g)
16	B—B 4	Kt—Kt 5	34	R(Kt 5)—Kt sq	B (Q sq)—Q 7 (h)
17	R—Q 6	P—Q Kt 3		Drawn.	
18	Kt—B 3 (c)	Kt—B 7			

Notes by Emil Kemeny in The Ledger, Philadelphia.

(a) Up to this move the opening was played similar to the fifth and seventh games. Lasker's defence is hardly a satisfactory one. Steinitz obtained a slight advantage, which, however, was not sufficient to force a win. It seems that Lasker had an exchange of Queens and minor pieces in view right from the start. He thus avoids complications, and, if his position does not become badly compromised, in the ending he is pretty sure to hold his own. The move adopted in the present position, namely, Kt—Q 2, seems an improvement. White cannot well reply B—K B 4, on account of P—K 4.

(b) B x B followed by K R—Q sq would probably have been better. The text move leads to an exchange of Queens.

(c) Kt—Q 4 was more promising, notwithstanding Black's possible reply, B—Kt 2.

(d) Black was evidently satisfied with a draw. To secure it it was important to have White play R—R 4. Black will thus be enabled to gain an important move, by continuing Kt—B 4, which attacks the Rook. He will then have time to guard the Q Kt P.

(e) This move causes the loss of a Pawn, yet in all probability it was the only way to escape defeat. Black otherwise would have been unable to bring his K R into play, and White, by continuing B—Kt 5, Q R—Q sq and Kt—B 6, might have established a winning attack.

(f) Had Black played R—R sq, then White would have continued Kt—K 7 ch, followed by R x Kt P. In fact, he could not save the Pawn.

(g) The position now arrived at is pretty nearly a safe draw. White will be unable to hold the Q R P. By doubling his Rooks on the seventh row and continuing with R—R 7, Black easily forces a draw.

(h) White, of course, must play R—K B sq. Black then answers R—R 7. Should White capture Rook, then, of course, he loses the Q R P. Should he advance the Q R P, then R x K B P, and if K R x R, then R x R ch, followed by R x P, a win for Black would result. A draw was agreed upon in this position.

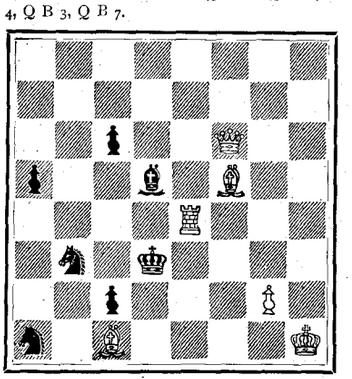
Problem 188.

BY LAWS.

This is only a two-mover; and two-ers are supposed to be easy.

Black—Seven Pieces.

K on Q 6; B on Q 4; Kts on Q Kt 6, Q R 8; Ps on Q R 4, Q B 3, Q B 7.



White—Six Pieces.

K on K R sq; Q on K B 6; R on K 4; Bs on Q B sq, K B 5; P on K Kt 2.

White mates in two moves.

Several of our solvers wrote us: "Give us something difficult." How about 186?

Solution of Problems.

No. 184.

1. Kt—K B 8 — K—K 4 must
2. Q—B 2! — K x Kt or
3. Q—Q B 5, mate — Q 4

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia.; Chas. W. Cooper, Allegheny, Pa.; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Ia.; the Rev. H. W. Temple, Washington, Pa.; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs J. V. Streed, Cambridge, Ill. Walter Brown, Malden, Mass.; J. T. C., Manhattan, Kan.; V. Brent, New Orleans; the Rev. Gilbert Dobbs, Franklin, Va.; Victor Abraham, Cincinnati; W. H. Cobb, Newton Center, Mass.; G. A. Humpert, St. Louis; Dr. A. L. Scholl, San Francisco; Chess-players in Kellogg's drug-store, Savanna, Ill.; the Rev. E. M. McMillen, Lebanon, Ky.; Dr. F. R. Collard, Wheelock, Tex.

While many of our solvers did not find this much of a puzzle, yet they speak very enthusiastically of it, as the following quotations will show: "The second move very intricate"; "it is a good one"; "a beautiful composition"; "a good companion for 183"; "beautiful and desperately hard to find"; "an enjoyable problem."

No. 185.

Dr. Pick won the game by R (B sq) x P.

This was found by M. W. H., G. Hampert, F. H. Johnston, and Mr. and Mrs. Streed.

M. W. H., however, questions the possibility of a win for White if Black plays 1 .., Q—Q Kt 3. His contention is that the best White can do is to win the Q for both Rs, leaving him with Q and two Ps, against two Rs and one P. What do you all think of this?

No. 183.

The following names are to be added to those who solved this problem; T. Harry Jones and W. C. Livingston, Brantford, Ont.; Dr. Collard, V. Brent, and Victor Abraham.

Do You Suffer From Asthma?

If you do, you will be interested in knowing that the Kola Plant, a new botanic discovery found on the Kongo River, West Africa is, pronounced an assured cure for the disease. Most marvelous cures are wrought by this new plant, when all other remedies fail. Rev. G. Ellsworth Stump, Pastor of the Congregational Church, Newell, Iowa, writes that the Kola Plant cured him of severe Asthma of twenty years' standing; Alfred C. Lewis, editor of *The Farmer's Magazine*, of Washington, D.C., testifies that it cured him when he could not lie down at night without fear of choking, and many others give similar testimony. It is really a most wonderful discovery. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, The Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. They only ask in return that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. This is very fair, and you should surely try it, as it costs you nothing.

How to Choose Paint.

It is probable that people are cheated in the quality of paints they buy more often than in other things, because people in general know so little about them. It costs just as much time and labor to put on a paint that last six months, as it does one that will last five years, so every person should get the information that will enable them to choose a good quality made of pure white lead instead of a cheap adulteration in which barytes is the chief ingredient. There are about twenty-seven brands of honest white lead, and there are numberless cheats. Every one who buys or uses paints can learn all about these, free of any cost whatever, if they will mention this paper and send their address on a postal-card to the National Lead Company, 1 Broadway, New York city, for a free book on the subject. They will receive some beautiful cards showing samples of colors, and pictures of twelve houses painted in different tints and combinations, which will be very valuable in choosing colors to use on buildings, etc.—*Farm & Fireside.*

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Current Events.

Monday, February 8.

The Senate discusses the arbitration treaty in secret session; the bill creating a new judicial district in Texas is passed over the President's veto. . . . The House considers District of Columbia business. . . . Ex-Governor John D. Long of Massachusetts accepts tender of the appointment of Secretary of the Navy by McKinley. . . . A contest of the count of electoral votes will

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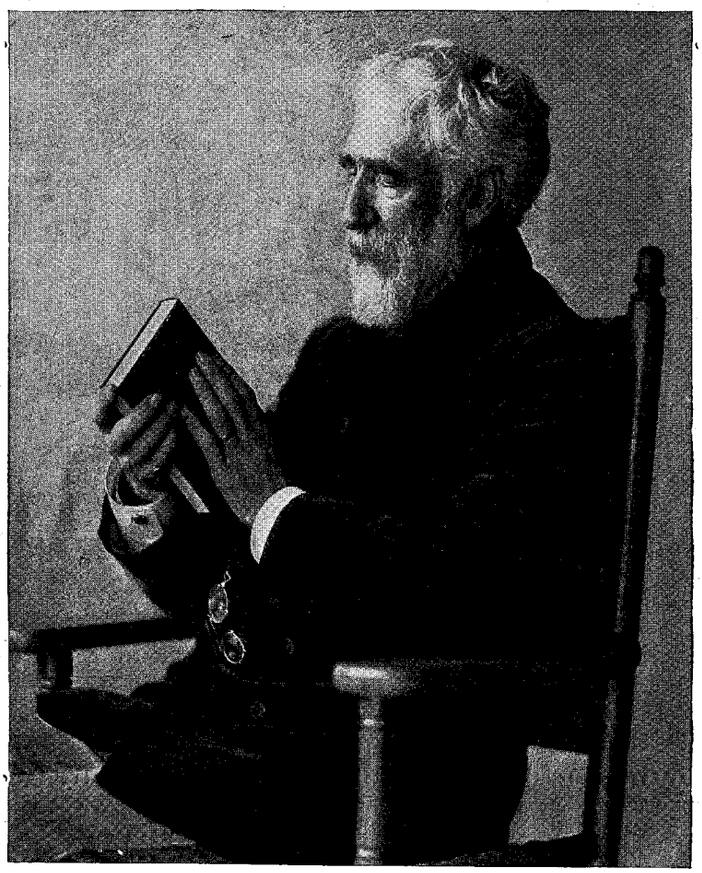
WHOLE WORLD'S BEST LITERATURE ON A SINGLE SHELF.

CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER, than whom few American writers hold so high a place, is just concluding his remarkably successful literary task of compacting all of the world's best literature, ancient and modern, into thirty volumes.

There has long been an obvious necessity for a work which would enable both the casual reader and the careful student to get at all that is best in books without wading through innumerable volumes, many of which are not now worth the time and trouble necessary to find out what is in them.

Of the world's books "in bulk" as found in the immense accumulation of thirty centuries it may safely be said that not one in a thousand, possibly ten thousand, is a contribution to genuine literature, while even those authors whose greatness is acknowledged have written much which they themselves would prefer had not seen the light.

This condition is thoroughly recognized by every one who knows aught of literature. We are all aware for instance that the same Milton who wrote "Paradise Lost" wrote a large amount of theological and poetical essays hardly fit to burn. The great writers of the time of Queen Anne, who are supposed to represent the highest standard of literary finish, wrote hundreds of volumes, which tho seen in "every gentleman's library," are never read by any one, because they do not deserve to be read.



The necessity above referred to has therefore resulted in many efforts at selections, but these have been so restricted and desultory as to be of little or no value in affording a means of surveying the whole field. There have been volumes of "Selected Poems"; "Elegant Extracts," even "Selected American Literature"; "Gems from English Literature," but these are simply browsings in the corner of a great domain. Neither poems or prose alone, nor the contribution of any single age, nature, or period constitute the world's literature, to know something of which in its entirety is absolutely essential to literary culture.

But Mr. Warner has attempted and fortunately accomplished something far different. In his "Library of the World's Best Literature" the whole field has been covered from the earliest time to the present day. He has taken from the literatures of all countries those portions which have withstood the test of years, and thus offers to the world, within a space that all may compass, a comprehensive epitome of the achievements of its masterminds.

But a project so far-reaching, involving critical selections from the whole domain of letters, could not be committed to any one man, since its universality must not be effected by any personal bias or predilection. So besides the assistance of a large corps of associate editors, Mr. Warner arranged for the cooperation of an Advisory Council from ten of our leading universities, and also secured the services of over three hundred of the most celebrated literary specialists and critics to furnish elaborate essays upon the great authors and great books of the world and upon the literatures of various nations and periods.

Such an enterprise, so wisely aided, could not fail of brilliant achievement. In a word, these thirty volumes contain all the best things that have been written, with accounts of the people who wrote them, and with the conclusions of the best modern scholarship about them. From a historical, biographical, critical point of view, the work meets every demand, while to the average man who reads for entertainment the Library is varied enough to suit every taste and mood.

And this brings us to a feature of the work which will prove of inestimable benefit to the young. While its contents are readable and interesting, they are also *pure*. Thus in the home, where children are being reared, its influence for good can hardly be overestimated. There is ever present danger in turning the youthful mind loose in a promiscuous selection of books, yet parents are apt to feel that this risk must be taken in order to afford the necessary acquaintance with the best writers. But with Mr. Warner's Library there is no risk in this direction, and it is not too much to say that the substituting of these thirty volumes for all the reading matter usually provided would work a revolution in the mental acquirements of our rising generation.

Altho primarily the Library is meant to be read, its reference and encyclopedic features are noteworthy. It contains a Biographical Dictionary of Authors which will contain the names of all the world's writers who have made enduring contributions to literature, with dates of birth and death, description whether historian, poet, or novelist, list of writings and the accepted pronunciation of name; together with other points in his career.

Again every one knows how difficult it often is to refer some particular character or incident to the book in which it belongs, and how difficult it is to trace persons and episodes in literature to their source. To aid in such emergencies the Library contains synopses of all important works, with their substance, story, or plot. To trace any character or episode it is only necessary to find it in the alphabetical index, which will refer you at once to the synopsis of the work containing it, and this will afford all information necessary for the purpose of general knowledge or intelligent conversation.

Withal, the indexes, four in number, so completely cover every department of the work with references and cross-references, that it is hard to conceive any literary fact that could not be speedily ascertained.

That there is a widespread desire among all classes to possess these thirty treasure volumes clearly appears from the number and character of the letters which are coming from far and near to the Harper's Weekly Club, through which a portion of the first edition is being distributed.

Altho the first edition is the most desirable because printed from the fresh, new plates, the publishers, instead of advancing the price, have actually reduced it over half, so as to quickly place a few sets in each community for inspection.

These introductory sets are being distributed through Harper's Weekly Club, exclusively, which will close this month, but we have made a reservation of fifty of these sets for LITERARY DIGEST readers, and these sets can be had by making prompt application to the Club at 91 Fifth Avenue, New York. Sample pages (and special prices) will be sent on request.

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not be made. . . . The Secretary of Agriculture issues regulations regarding transportation of cattle in Arkansas, North Carolina, and other States. . . . M. C. D. Borden purchases 750,000 pieces of goods in the Fall River print market.

Five thousand refugees embark from Canea, Crete; 2,000 refugees are on board the British warships. . . . M. Hanotaux, the French foreign minister, makes a statement in the French Chamber in regard to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's recent utterances. . . . The Royal Geographical Society gives a reception to Dr. Nansen in London; the Prince of Wales presents a gold medal to the explorer.

Tuesday, February 9.

The Senate behind closed doors discusses the arbitration treaty. . . . The House passes two pension bills over the President's veto and adopts a second report on the immigration bill. . . . The American Wool Growers' Association in Washington favors protective duties to give them a value of twenty cents per pound for unwashed and twenty-five cents for washed merino wool. . . . Admiral Bunce's fleet prepares for a mimic blockade of Charleston Harbor; the cruiser *Brooklyn* is seriously injured and in drydock. . . . Rev. Dr. Charles C. Hall, pastor first Presbyterian church, Brooklyn, is elected president of the Union Theological Seminary. . . . The Chicago committe under the Joint Traffic Association cuts wool rates to the East. . . . The steel raid pool is disrupted and orders are being taken at cut rates. . . . The thirteenth anuual convention of the Roman Catholic Order of Foresters opens in Columbus, Ohio.

It is reported that the Greek flag has been raised at Retimo, Crete, and that more Greek warships will be sent to Cretan waters. . . . Emperor William, at a banquet urges an increase of the strength of the German army and navy. . . . Serious rioting occurs in Hamburg as an outcome of the bad feeling caused by the recent strike. . . . Excitement again prevails at Constantinople, and there are fears of another massacre.

Wednesday, February 10.

The electoral votes are counted by Congress in joint session; For President, McKinley 271, Bryan 176; for Vice-President: Hobart 271; Sewall 149; Watson 27. . . . Mr. Morgan withdraws the Nicaragua Canal bill for the session and the bankruptcy bill is taken up by the Senate; the agricultural appropriation bill is passed. . . . The House places the fortifications and Post-office appropriations bill on the calendar. . . . Owing to the collapse of the steel rail pool and cut prices large orders are placed with Eastern and Western mills. . . . The Massachusetts legislative committee on constitutional amendments votes to strike out the word "male," to give women full suffrage. . . . The Iowa supreme court decides that the mulct liquor law does not apply to cities under special charters, restoring prohibition in Davenport and several cities. . . . The much-discussed Bradley Martin ball is held in New York city.

Dispatches report that the Greek torpedo fleet, commanded by Prince George, has sailed from Athens for Crete. . . . The British Niger expedition is said to have captured Bida, capital of the Foulah tribe; one British officer was killed in the assault. . . . J. K. McCulloch, of Winnipeg, wins the gold medal and the world's amateur championship at the Montreal skating meeting. . . . Pilgrimages across Russian territory are forbidden because of the Indian plague. . . .

The House of Commons rejects a bill for closing public-houses on Sunday.

Thursday, February 11.

The Senate discusses the arbitration treaty; the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill is passed. . . . The House passes a bill to refund bonded debt of Territories and the fortifications appropriation bill. . . . Committees of Wool Growers' and Manufacturers' associations in Washington fail to agree on a schedule for the new tariff. . . . Chauncey M. Depew is elected president of the Joint Traffic Association. . . . An agreement is perfected between railroads and the Ohio Soft Coal Traffic Association at Cleveland. . . . The Illinois Steel Company reopens mills with reduced wages; the Carnegie Company cuts the price of steel rates to $14.25 a ton. . . . The Illinois court of appeals decides that outside trust companies could not operate in that State without making surety deposits, the same as domestic concerns. . . . Isaac B. Potter, of New York, is elected president of the League of American Wheelmen by the National Assembly at Albany. . . . John D. Rockefeller makes a conditional offer of $250,000 toward Baptist Mission Societies' debt.

The Greek Government announces its intentions to intervene forcibly in Crete; Turkey appeals to the powers for aid. . . . Fire in Ottawa damages the Dominion Parliament buildings. . . . King Malietoa offers amnesty to Matafa and the other exiled Samoan chiefs. . . . The Spanish Government accepts Miss Clara Barton's offer of the services of the Red Cross for relief work in Cuba.

Friday, February 12.

The Senate discusses the arbitration treaty; Mr. Morgan introduces a resolution abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. . . . The House passes the Post-office appropriation bill. . . . Lincoln's birthday banquets are held in various cities. . . . The battleships *Texas* and *Maine* are selected to represent the navy at New Orleans during Mardi Gras. . . . The Merritt claims against John D. Rockefeller on the Mesabi iron mines are settled for $500,000.

The Cretan situation is serious to the powers; a joint blockade is proposed; it is said they will not allow Greece to begin war with Turkey; Christians are said to have driven the Moslems into Canea. . . . Captain-General Weyler gives 2,000,000 francs to the Spanish war fund in Cuba; sharp fighting by land and sea is reported from Havana.

Saturday, February 13.

The Senate discusses the arbitration treaty; the committee on foreign relations frames another amendment; a joint resolution is passed tendering a transport for cereals from San Francisco to India. . . . The House considers the Sunday civil appropriation bill. . . . The Merchants National Bank, Helena, Mont., and the State Trust and Savings Bank, West Superior, Wis., fail. . . . General J. O. Shelby dies near Adrian, Mo. . . . A heavy blizzard is reported in Minnesota.

The Porte declares its intention to attack Greece in Thessaly unless the powers restrain hostile action by Greece in Crete. . . . The Canadian Indian famine fund amounts to $50,000. . . . General Weyler continues his advance in Santa Clara province, Cuba, laying the country waste.

Sunday, February 14.

It is reported that the Greek army reserves have been called out; detachments of infantry, artillery, and engineers have embarked at Piræus for Crete. . . . The Berlin police seize the books of the Concordia Life Insurance Company for fraudulent practises. . . . The mayor of Havana issues an order preventing any persons entering the city cemeteries except those whose duties are required at a burial.

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